

# The Asian Reporter

Pacific Northwest NewsWeekly □ Volume 19 Number 24 □ Tuesday, June 23, 2009 □ [www.asianreporter.com](http://www.asianreporter.com)

## AsiaFest: Portland's celebration of diverse Asian cultures



**INFLATABLE FUN.** The kids' area at this year's AsiaFest celebration included "body boppers" — inflatable donut-shaped toys with handles — and more. Held in celebration of Asian Heritage Month, the festival featured music, dance, cultural performances, a trivia challenge, arts-and-crafts and information booths, Asian cuisine, bubble tea, and more. Read about the sixth annual event on page 16. (AR Photo/Jan Landis)

## AALDEF releases report on Asian-American voting in 2008 election

The Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) has released detailed findings from its nonpartisan, multilingual exit poll of 16,665 Asian-American voters during the November 2008 presidential election, the largest survey of its kind in the nation. AALDEF polled Asian-American voters in 11 states on election day: New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Michigan, Illinois, Louisiana, Texas, Nevada, and Washington, D.C.

"In the historic 2008 presidential election, Asian-American voters were engaged in the political process like never before," said AALDEF executive director Margaret Fung. "The AALDEF exit poll offers unique insights into the Asian-American electorate, which will continue to have growing influence on our nation's political landscape."

AALDEF staff attorney Glenn Magpantay presented the results of the 2008 multilingual exit poll on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Key findings from AALDEF's report, "The Asian American Vote in the 2008 Presidential Election," include the following:

■ Asian Americans are a growing segment of the electorate, with a large proportion of first-time voters and foreign-born

naturalized U.S. citizens. Nearly four out of five (79 percent) Asian Americans polled were foreign-born naturalized U.S. citizens. Almost one third (31 percent) of those polled said they voted for the first time in the 2008 presidential election.

■ Asian Americans shared common political interests, even across ethnic lines. In the presidential election, Asian Americans voted as a bloc for the same candidates and identified common reasons for their votes. Every Asian ethnic group selected economy/jobs as the most important factor influencing votes. The 10 largest Asian ethnic groups in the exit poll were Chinese (32 percent), Asian Indian (15 percent), Korean (14 percent), Bangladeshi (eight percent), Vietnamese (six percent), Filipino (five percent), Pakistani (four percent), Indo-Caribbean (four percent), Arab (three percent), and Cambodian (two percent).

■ More than three-quarters (76 percent) of Asian Americans polled voted for Barack Obama for president, with 23 percent supporting John McCain. In 30 of the 45 congressional districts where the exit poll was conducted, a majority of Asian Americans supported Democratic candidates. Among Asian Americans polled, 58 percent were registered Democrats, 13

percent were registered Republicans, and 26 percent were not enrolled in any political party.

■ Overall, the most important factors influencing Asian Americans in their vote for president were economy/jobs (66 percent), healthcare (40 percent), and foreign policy/war in Iraq (31 percent). Other top issues included education (27 percent), civil rights/immigrant rights (23 percent), terrorism/security (14 percent), and crime in neighborhoods (six percent).

■ Of those who expressed an opinion, nearly four out of five (79 percent) respondents supported the provision of health insurance and medical coverage to all persons irrespective of their immigration status.

■ More than one-third (35 percent) of Asian-American voters polled were limited-English proficient (LEP), defined as speaking English "less than very well." One in five (20 percent) respondents identified English as their native language. Among the different Asian ethnic groups polled, Korean Americans had the highest concentration of LEP voters, with more than half (54 percent) identifying themselves as LEP, followed by Vietnamese-American (53 percent) and

*Continued on page 7*



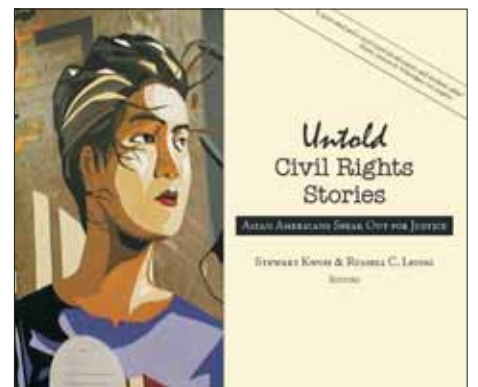
South Korea completes first space center

Page 3



Puppets meld cultures and teach language

Page 8



Asian experience focus of UCLA textbook

Page 9

## OBT offers Obonfest commemorative lanterns for purchase

The Oregon Buddhist Temple (OBT) is offering commemorative lanterns for purchase as part of its annual Obonfest, held Saturday, August 1 from 4:00 to 9:00pm. The festival commemorates the lives of loved ones who have passed away.

Lanterns are strung in memory of friends and family. White lanterns commemorate the deceased, whose names are written on the lanterns in *kanji* (Chinese characters), *katakana* (simple Japanese), and/or English along with the date of passing. Red lanterns may have any name, including businesses.

Lanterns are available for \$25 each. Previously purchased lanterns may be strung for \$15.

*Continued on page 7*

The Asian Reporter  
922 N. Killingsworth St., Suite 1A  
Portland, OR 97217 USA

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Portland, OR  
Permit # 2474

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
ASIAN REPORTER FOUNDATION'S  
2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS!**

To download a PDF version of our special issue honoring this year's awardees, which was published May 19, 2009, visit [www.asianreporter.com](http://www.asianreporter.com) or [www.ARFoundation.net](http://www.ARFoundation.net).



### Japan's knuckleball girl takes loss

KOBE, Japan (AP) — Japan's first female professional baseball player struggled with her control and took her first loss this month. Eri Yoshida, a 17-year-old who throws a sidearm knuckleball, took the mound in the ninth inning with the score tied 2-2. With two outs and a runner on third base, Yoshida threw a wild pitch which allowed the winning run to score as the Akashi Red Soldiers won 3-2 against the Kobe Cruise 9. Yoshida also hit a batter with a pitch and threw wildly to first base trying to hold a runner before recording the final out with a strikeout. Yoshida created a stir when she signed a contract in December. Some speculated the move was more of a publicity stunt to generate interest in the four-team Kansai Independent League, which has struggled amid Japan's worsening economic conditions. The five-foot, 114-pound Yoshida has appeared in only three of the Cruise 9's 22 games this season.

### Philippine lawmaker wants the dead to stop voting

MANILA, The Philippines (AP) — A Philippine lawmaker frustrated by rampant electoral fraud has proposed legislation to remove the names of the dead off voter rolls. Rep. Maria Victoria Sy-Alvarado said she wants to make it mandatory for doctors and family members to report deaths to the civil registrar, which has to give the information to the Election Commission so it can update its voter lists. The bill must go through a long legislative process before becoming law. If enacted, government officials or employees would face up to 10 years imprisonment and be disqualified from public office. In past elections, family members have reported finding the names of dead relatives on the lists. In some cases, someone has voted using their names.

### Vietnam arrests lawyer who defended activists

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Vietnamese police have arrested a lawyer known for defending pro-democracy activists and accused him of working with "hostile forces" against the communist state, according to state media reports. The *People's Police* newspaper said on its website that Le Cong Dinh was taken into custody for violating Article 88 of the Criminal Code, which prohibits distributing information harmful to the state. The newspaper report gave no details about the "hostile forces." In 2007, Dinh defended human-rights lawyers Nguyen Van Dai and Le Thi Cong Nhan when they appealed their prison sentences for spreading anti-government propaganda.

### Iranian soccer players wear green armbands

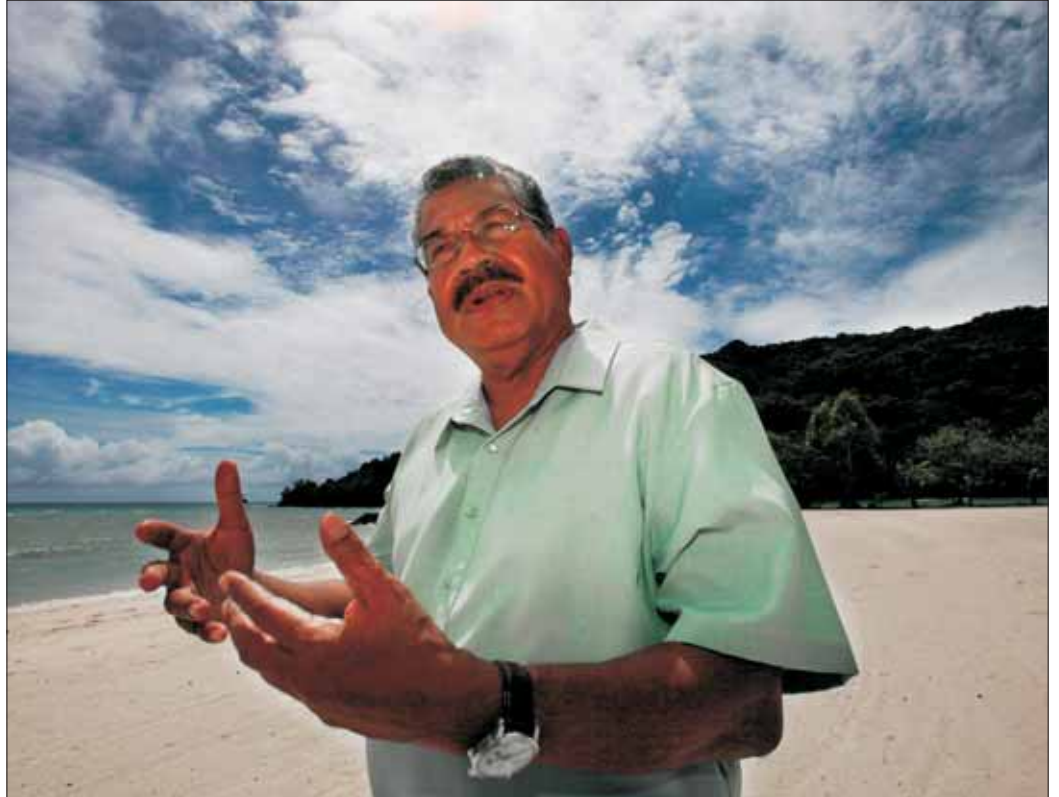
SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — At least five Iranian soccer players wore green bands around their wrists or arms during a World Cup qualifying match against South Korea in an apparent protest against a disputed election at home. The players, including captain Mehdi Mahdavia, wore green — the signature color of opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi — in an apparent show of support. Protesters at home who accuse the government of rigging Iran's June 12 election in favor of hardline President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad have been wearing similar green wristbands. One player, Ali Karimi, had green bands wrapped around both wrists. By the second half, some had removed the green bands, which are not a regular part of their uniforms. Mahdavia kept his band on.

### Couple struck dead by lightning on Great Wall

BEIJING (AP) — Lightning struck and killed a recently married Chinese couple as they climbed an undeveloped section of the Great Wall in Beijing, a state-controlled newspaper said. The force of the lightning strike caused the pair to fall from the 164-foot-high wall in Huairou, a Beijing suburb, the *Beijing Times* newspaper reported. Rescuers arrived about two hours later, but the couple, who married late last year, had already stopped breathing, the report said. They were both 27 years old. Calls to authorities in Huairou rang unanswered. The section of the wall where the couple was climbing is part of hundreds of miles of eroded "wild wall" that draw hikers and outdoor enthusiasts eager for adventure. The government banned exploration of such undeveloped sections in 2003 to protect the ancient monument from damage.

### Yemeni tribesmen kidnap 24 medics

SANA, Yemen (AP) — Yemeni tribesmen kidnapped 24 local and foreign medics working at a Saudi hospital in northern Yemen and demanded the government release two of their colleagues. Armed tribesmen kidnapped the group, which includes male and female medics from Egypt, India, Sudan, and the Philippines, as they were travelling on a bus from the capital, San'a, to northern Sada province, said Sheik Hezam, who identified himself as one of the kidnappers. The tribesmen commandeered the bus and took it to a mountainous area in Amran province, 50 miles north of San'a, Hezam told The Associated Press. He said the hostages are safe and in good health. Local tribal leaders and ordinary citizens confirmed the kidnapping, speaking on condition of anonymity for fear of government response. Government officials refused to comment on the kidnapping, saying it was a tribal matter. Yemeni tribes have previously seized foreigners — either tourists or those living or working in the country — to pressure the Yemeni government to meet their demands, mainly to free clan members from jail. In most cases the kidnappings are resolved and the hostages freed unharmed. Hezam also demanded the government implement development projects in his area to improve the local economy. Yemen, the most impoverished country in the Arabian Peninsula, is a U.S. ally in the Middle East, but also the ancestral homeland of Osama bin Laden, and al-Qaida loyalists are active in the country.



**PHILANTHROPY OR POLITICS?** Palau President Johnson Toribiong speaks during an interview at a beach in Ngerkebesang, Palau. The leader of Palau is flattered by all the publicity he's received since agreeing to take in some detainees from Guantanamo Bay prison camp, but has repeatedly denied the tiny Pacific archipelago stands to benefit financially in exchange for accepting the Chinese Muslims, known as Uighurs. The arrangement coincides with the start of talks to review the agreement that governs Palau's relationship with the U.S. — its most important strategic and financial benefactor. (AP Photo/Itsuo Inouye)

## Palau accepts Uighurs amid review of key U.S. accord

By Tomoko A. Hosaka  
Associated Press Writer

**K**OROR, Palau — Palau's decision to take in 13 Guantanamo detainees is a humanitarian gesture from a country that prides itself on welcoming society's castaways.

It also appears to be about the money. President Johnson Toribiong has repeatedly denied the tiny Pacific archipelago stands to benefit financially in exchange for accepting the Chinese Muslims, known as Uighurs. But the arrangement coincides with the start of talks to review the agreement that governs Palau's relationship with the U.S. — its most important strategic and financial benefactor.

Under the Compact of Free Association, Washington's aid to Palau from 1995 to 2009 is expected to exceed \$852 million, according to a report last year by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). It includes direct funding as well as access to U.S. postal, aviation, and weather services.

It also paid for a massive, nine-year public-works project to build a 53-mile road that loops around Palau's biggest island.

U.S. aid to Palau, a former U.S. trust territory about 500 miles east of the Philippines, is vital to the tiny island's economy. From 2000 to 2006 it accounted for more than one-third of Palau's revenue.

Key parts of the compact, including the

section on direct assistance, are facing a mandatory 15-year review and will expire September 30 unless they are renewed. Negotiations on the compact began in early June and are ongoing.

"Any independent thinking person will say (the Uighurs) will have an effect (on the compact review), despite the fact that the politicians say it has nothing to do with it," said Joshua Koshiba, head of Palau's negotiating team with Washington.

Palau is one of the world's smallest countries, with some 20,000 people scattered over 190 square miles of lush tropical landscapes. Its economy depends heavily on tourism and foreign aid from the U.S., Japan, and Taiwan.

The island made headlines this month after agreeing to President Barack Obama's request to take the 13 Uighurs after other countries turned Washington down.

In the midst of aid discussions, the country is using the Uighurs to remind Washington it is a loyal friend and ally. It could also benefit from a credibility boost after the GAO released an unflattering assessment of Palau's management of U.S. aid.

A GAO report last year cited "persistent internal control weaknesses over financial reporting," and said Palau had trouble addressing the accounting issues because of its limited access to resources and expertise.

*Continued on page 4*

### AUTO ACCIDENT? HURT?



**YOU NEED DR. GILBERT**

**Align Chiropractic llc**  
10121 SE Sunnyside Road, #300  
Clackamas, OR 97086  
(503) 496-5166 • (503) 998-1243

[www.alignchiropracticllc.com](http://www.alignchiropracticllc.com)



Happy Hours  
Last Thursday  
of Every Month

Please RSVP at  
[ORIENTED.COM](http://ORIENTED.COM)

ORIENTED.COM is a global network of international professionals interested in Asian business and partnerships, with 30,000+ members worldwide.

### Asian Currency Exchange Rates

Units per U.S. dollar as of 6/21

Bangladesh Taka	69.04
Cambodian Riel	4149.0
China Renminbi	6.8363
Fijian Dollar	2.0846
Hong Kong Dollar	7.75
Indian Rupee	48.085
Indonesian Rupiah	10310
Iranian Rial	9894.6
Japanese Yen	96.27
Laos New Kip	8528.5
Malaysian Ringgit	3.5371
Nepal Rupee	76.928
Pakistani Rupee	81.175
Papua N.G. Kina	2.6546
Philippine Peso	48.402
Russian Ruble	31.084
Saudi Riyal	3.7496
Singapore Dollar	1.4548
South Korean Won	1268.4
Sri Lankan Rupee	114.95
Taiwan Dollar	32.866
Thai Baht	34.105
Vietnam Dong	17801

# South Korea completes first space center

By Hyung-jin Kim  
Associated Press Writer

**S**EOUL, South Korea — South Korea has completed its first space center and plans to launch a satellite from the site in July, the Science Ministry said, about two months after rival North Korea claimed it shot a satellite into orbit.

The planned launch, if successful, would mark the first time for South Korea to launch a rocket into space from its own territory. Since 1992, it has launched 11 satellites from overseas sites, all on foreign-made rockets.

The Naro Space Center was built on an island off Goheung, about 290 miles south of Seoul. More than 310 billion won (\$250 million) was spent on the project, which took 4 1/2 years to complete, the ministry said in a statement.

Science Ministry official Shim Sung-eun said South Korea is the 13th country in the world to possess a space center.

A weather-observation satellite to be launched from the space center on July 30 and key facilities at the space center were built with South Korean technology, but Russia helped build the two-stage rocket



**SPACE RACE.** South Korean children cheer in front of the Korea Space Launch Vehicle-1 (KSLV-I) at the country's first space center in Goheung, south of Seoul, South Korea. (AP Photo/Yonhap, Jo Bo-hee)

that will carry the satellite, the ministry said.

Rival communist North Korea has

already developed a variety of missiles and launched a long-range rocket from a domestic launch site in early April in

defiance of international warnings.

Pyongyang said the rocket carried a satellite into orbit as part of a peaceful space development program, but the U.S. and its allies said nothing reached space and the launch was actually a test of the country's missile technology.

The two Koreas are still technically at war because the 1950-53 Korean conflict ended with a ceasefire, not a peace treaty.

The Science Ministry said South Korea plans to develop a space launch vehicle with its own technology by 2018 and a lunar module by 2025.

"Today, with the construction of this space center, we let the entire world know that our national strength has built up by one level," President Lee Myung-bak said in a speech at the new center. "In the near future, we can go to space and the moon with our own technology. To do so, we have to speed up developing our own Korean space launch vehicles based on the technologies we have acquired so far."

**PDX REPO TOURS**  
Incredible Deals on  
Bank Owned Homes  
[pdxrepotours.com](http://pdxrepotours.com)  
503.781.0206

**TIGARD FLEA MARKET**  
NOW OPEN  
Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at 10:00am  
Canterbury Shopping Center  
14365 S.W. Pacific Hwy.  
Tigard, Oregon  
Rent a space only \$10.00 a day  
Call (503) 314-2955

Bring your family for oysters, clamming, and crabbing!  
Stay 2 nights, get 1 free!

**Mike's Beach Resort**  
[www.mikesbeachresort.com](http://www.mikesbeachresort.com) • (360) 877-5324  
Bring this ad for a discount!

**TransitTracker™**  
It's about *real* time.

Find out when your bus or MAX is coming,  
with up-to-the-minute arrival information.

Call **503-238-RIDE (7433)**  
and enter the Stop ID number for your stop.

**TRIMET**  
See where it takes you.

**SEVEN FEATHERS CASINO RESORT**

**PAI GOW POKER IS BACK!**

**GREAT GAME, GREAT ROOM RATE!**  
**\$99 1<sup>ST</sup> NIGHT**      **154 NEW HOTEL ROOMS**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> NIGHT 1/2 OFF**      **BOOK ONLINE OR CALL**  
1-866-677-7771

Must sign up for the Players Club, membership is FREE. Rooms subject to availability. Based on double occupancy. Advance reservations required. Mention PAI GOW room rate. Offer valid through July 15, 2009. Tax not included. Offer excludes suites. Not valid with other offers & discounts.

I-5, Exit 99 • Canyonville, OR • Res 888.677.7771  
Casino Info 800.548.8461 • [sevenfeathers.com](http://sevenfeathers.com)

# Nepal's Maoists grow angry amid fears for peace

By Tim Sullivan  
Associated Press Writer

**D**ASTRATPUR, Nepal — The former rebels pass their days on an old research farm now set behind a tall barbed-wire fence, a place of flimsy wooden buildings, weed-filled roads, and laundry strung from the volleyball net.

Or they wander through the dusty two-street town, some walking with limps that tell of battlefield injuries, of years spent fighting in the mountains. Many still wear jungle camouflage. They are bored, frustrated, and increasingly angry.

Three years after war ended in Nepal, former Maoist guerrillas remain in a U.N.-monitored camp and are among the biggest threats to the Himalayan nation's fragile peace.

"We don't want to go back to war, but we might have to," said a 35-year-old Maoist military commander who still goes by his nom de guerre, Pratik. He spent years fighting what the Maoists called the People's War, leaving his family to disappear into a bloody insurgency that cost Nepal some 13,000 lives and crippled the economy in an attempt to abolish the monarchy and usher in a communist state. "It's a fluid situation. Maybe we'll fight, maybe we won't," he said, smiling.

His former foot soldiers — there are more than 19,000 in U.N.-monitored camps scattered across Nepal — are far more blunt.

"We spent years fighting for the people. Now the government should be helping us with jobs, houses, everything. But they've already forgotten us," said a young woman who joined the Maoists at age 15 and now lives in a disarmament camp in Dastratpur, in the foothills of western Nepal. She spoke on condition that her name not be used, fearing retribution from her commanders.

She is nostalgic for her fighting days, when life seemed far simpler and Maoist guerrillas were the law through much of the countryside. "War? It would be good for us if the war began again."

"I wanted to change society," she continued. "We wanted equality: rich and poor, men and women, everyone."

Such rhetoric had strong appeal across much of Nepal, where per capita income is about \$25 a month, illiteracy is widespread, and vast social divides have left millions working as tenant farmers for feudal landlords. The mainstream political parties, meanwhile, are widely seen as inbred, corrupt, and paralyzed by internal bickering.

So in 1996, the Maoists launched an insurgency that finally ended with a 2006 peace agreement. In the years since, the monarchy has been abolished and the Maoists have come into the political mainstream. They won the 2008 elections, though they fell short of an outright



**FRAGILE PEACE.** A Maoist supporter holding an iron bar shouts slogans during a clash with Nepalese riot police in Kathmandu, Nepal. Three years after war ended in Nepal, former Maoist guerrillas remain in a U.N.-monitored camp and are among the biggest threats to the Himalayan nation's fragile peace. (AP Photo/Gemunu Amarasinghe)

parliamentary majority. Pushpa Kamal Dahal, the top rebel leader, became prime minister.

But key commitments of the peace process remain unresolved. Most critically, little progress has been made on a draft constitution to create a new government structure and the Maoist guerrillas — who were promised positions in Nepal's security forces or help in returning to civilian society — remain stuck in their camps.

Chaos, very often, seems all too close.

Last month, Dahal tried to fire the head of the country's army, in part for not integrating the former guerrillas into

the armed forces. When the president overruled his order, Dahal resigned as prime minister.

In the days since, the Maoists have repeatedly blocked parliamentary proceedings and launched protests that have closed government offices across the country. Their youth wing has become a widely feared urban force of violent protesters and street clashes have become common.

So how close is war?

The Maoists' leaders insist they will press forward with the peace process, and most observers do not foresee an imminent return to all-out combat.

But the situation remains extremely unpredictable, and few in Nepal take the Maoists at their word when they declare they want peace. Last month, local TV stations played a video showing Dahal proudly telling a Maoist meeting he had tricked the United Nations into believing there were far more Maoist guerrillas than actually exist — and that his party would eventually achieve total control of Nepal.

Meanwhile, a string of militant ethnic groups has sprung up over the past several years, many in regions that sent thousands of people into the Maoist army. Now, some fear, the former guerrillas could find homes in those groups, magnifying the bloodshed.

Then there are the disarmament camps, which are monitored by the U.N. but under the control of the Maoists themselves.

Karin Landgren, the head of the U.N. mission in Nepal, warned the U.N. Security Council last month that the lack of progress on the Maoist fighters was an "Achilles' heel of the peace process." The camps "were never intended to last this long," Landgren said. "Conditions are not the best, and the monsoon here can be very rough."

Most Nepalese politicians view the camps extremely warily, seeing them as a type of militant insurance policy, something the Maoists are keeping in reserve in case they find themselves politically shunted aside.

Certainly, there is little trust of the Maoists' intentions.

"There has been some suspicion ... that the Maoists are trying to capture power, trying to capture the military, that they want to put their Maoist military cadre inside the top positions of the Nepali military," Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal told The AP.

At the Dastratpur camp, Pratik said war may be thrust upon the former rebels. He spoke cryptically of powerful forces working against the Maoists. "The government is uncertain, other parties are making trouble. Suspects are everywhere," he said, declining to give any details.

But, he said, if it came to war his guerrillas would be ready. The peace agreement allows for weapons to be stored in well-locked containers in the disarmament camps.

The lock, though, will not be a problem: "There is only one key, and we have it."

## Palau accepts Uighurs amid review of key U.S. accord

Continued from page 2

Koshiba acknowledged Palau's financial missteps, saying, "with so much economic aid (the U.S.) gave us, I guess we were not that good at implementing them right."

"We did spend the money, but we spent [it] on things that were not essential to the growth of the economy," he said, citing the construction of traditional meeting houses — or *abais* — that boosted cultural pride but are not used.

Koshiba, a former senator, blames both his country and the U.S., which he says provided little guidance — something he said Palau needed after living under foreign rule since the late 19th century. The GAO also noted that the U.S. Department of the Interior's oversight of funds to Palau was limited.

In talks with Washington now, Koshiba said he will seek advice and expertise to go along with new aid.

For its part, the U.S. says it remains committed to Palau and its island neighbors as critical strategic footholds to maintain global security.

Mark Bezner, charge d'affaires for the U.S. in Palau, said the compact has "worked well" so far and he expects only minor changes.

Palau's president traveled to Washington in March and met with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and lawmakers, seeking support for continued financial aid to Palau.

"That was when Palau sort of got onto the mental map of people in Washington," Bezner said.

Less than three months later, the U.S. turned to Palau to host the Uighurs.

Look who's 40!!

Happy birthday!!

**PREMIER MORTGAGE GROUP**  
EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE. OUTSTANDING RESULTS.

**Tu Phan**

Interest rates are at 50-year lows!

Call for:  
Refinances  
Purchases  
FHAVA

10001 S.E. Sunnyside Rd.  
Suite 210  
Clackamas, OR 97015  
(503) 496-0531  
<tu@premg.com>

**su | do | ku**

© Puzzles by Pappocom

				5	3	4	2
		8					6
		2		7		9	
			2			1	9
9							7
6	5		7				
	6	7			9		
3				8			
5	8	7	9				

Difficulty level: Medium #53428

**Instructions:** Fill in the grid so that the digits 1 through 9 appear one time each in every row, column, and 3x3 box.

**Solution to last week's puzzle**

Puzzle #59714 (Easy)

All solutions available at <www.sudoku.com>.

8	2	5	1	7	3	9	6	4
6	7	1	5	4	9	8	3	2
4	9	3	6	2	8	1	7	5
2	6	9	3	1	7	4	5	8
5	1	8	2	6	4	3	9	7
3	4	7	9	8	5	6	2	1
7	3	4	8	5	6	2	1	9
9	5	2	4	3	1	7	8	6
1	8	6	7	9	2	5	4	3

**American Red Cross**

**Give blood.**

To schedule a blood donation call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit HelpSaveALife.org.

# Thailand returns ancient treasures to Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — Thailand returned seven treasures from Cambodia's Golden Age to its neighbor as the countries pledged to prevent further smuggling of antiquities.

The statues from the 12th-century Angkorian era, including six heads of the Hindu god Shiva, were handed to Cambodian officials during an official one-day visit by Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva. Thai authorities seized them from smugglers in 1999.

Widespread looting of Cambodia's ancient temples has occurred in recent decades, with many items smuggled into Thailand for sale in international antiques markets or to private collectors.

"The return of these artifacts shows that Cambodia and Thailand enjoy good cooperation and respect each other's laws," said Cambodian foreign minister Hor Namhong.

Eang Sophalleth, spokesman for Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, said the two sides agreed to cooperate in stamping out smuggling of national antiquities, and the prime minister urged Thailand to return 36 other artifacts that belonged to Cambodia. Both countries also agreed to speedily resolve a dispute over the 11th century Preah Vihear temple.

Tensions flared in July last year when UNESCO, the U.N. cultural agency, ap-



**RELIC RETURNED.** Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva (left front) and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen (right front) stand beside an artifact that was stolen by smugglers in Cambodia and found in Thailand, during a meeting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Thailand returned seven such stolen artifacts to Cambodia when the leaders met this month and agreed to avoid any further military clashes along their two countries' border. (Kyodo via AP Images)

proved Cambodia's bid to have Preah Vihear named a World Heritage Site, leading some Thais to believe their claims to the surrounding land would be undermined.

Since then, several soldiers on both sides

have been killed in gunbattles in the area, but neither side will back down.

The World Court awarded the temple to Cambodia in 1962, but sovereignty of the surrounding land has never been clearly resolved.

# Kim Jong Il's youngest son, Jong Un, secretly visits China

By Shino Yuasa  
Associated Press Writer

TOKYO — The youngest son — and reportedly heir apparent — of North Korea's ailing leader Kim Jong Il secretly visited China this month and was urged by President Hu Jintao to have the North halt additional nuclear tests, a top Japanese newspaper said.

During the mid-June trip, Kim Jong Un asked China — its key ally and biggest aid donor — to continue its energy and food aid to the North, the *Asahi* newspaper said, quoting unnamed North Korean sources in Beijing.

It also said Hu urged the 26-year-old to have Pyongyang refrain from carrying out any further nuclear and missile tests. It did not provide further details.

An aide to Jong Un, who accompanied him on the trip along with senior officials, used the occasion to inform Chinese officials that Jong Un would be inheriting power from his father, the report said.

South Korea's Foreign Ministry and Unification Ministry said they could not

Continued on page 8

**GeoFX Photography**

**George Wu**  
Digital Photographer

5383 SW Humphrey Blvd.  
Portland, OR 97221  
(971) 221-9300  
photo@geofx.net  
http://photo.geofx.net

**THE BROADWAY**  
Bar & Grill

... where everybody is a winner!

- All Lottery Games
- Full Bar
- Dinner Specials Every Night
- www.broadwaysaloon.com

12434 S.W. Broadway  
Old Town Beaverton  
(503) 641-7474

**Sparrow Travel**

Cruises  
Family Vacations  
Honeymoon Registry  
Escorted Tours to China & SE Asia

503.936.8037 tracey@sparrowtravel.com www.sparrowtravel.com

Allied with Motrose Travel CST #1018299-10

**Oregon Department of Transportation**

**I-5 Willamette River Bridge**  
Eugene & Springfield

Subcontracting opportunities in a variety of work areas are available on an OTIA III State Bridge Delivery Program bridge construction project.

Slayden Construction Group and Hamilton Construction Co. are partnering with the Oregon Department of Transportation on Bundle 220, Interstate 5: Willamette River Bridge, a construction manager/general contractor project in Eugene and Springfield.

**Reminder!**  
**EARLY WORK PACKAGE BIDS DUE**  
**July 9, 2009, 2:00 p.m.**

Bid packages are available at **Slayden Construction Group, Inc.**  
Contact **Cyndi Bolduc** at **(503) 769-1969** or **slayden@slayden.com**

ODOT supports the participation of **disadvantaged, minority, women and emerging small business enterprises**, as well as **opportunities for trainees and apprentices, on highway construction projects.**

The **BEST PRODUCE & SEAFOOD** in the **PACIFIC NW**

**WEEKLY SPECIALS**

*Uwajimaya now opens earlier!*

**Monday through Saturday:**  
**7:00am to 10:00pm**

**Sunday:**  
**9:00am to 9:00pm**

The Quality Asian Grocery & Gift Market

**UWAJIMAYA**

SEATTLE: 206-624-6248 • BELLEVUE: 425-747-9012 • BEAVERTON: 503-643-4512 • www.uwajimaya.com

**Columbia River CROSSING**

The Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project is a bridge, transit and highway improvement project for I-5.

**Listening Sessions on Tolling**

Tolling will help fund the CRC project and manage congestion. The CRC Tolling Study Committee wants your thoughts on preliminary tolling options.

**Tuesday, June 30, 2009 | 6-8PM**  
Presentation at 6:30PM  
Washington State Department of Transportation  
SW Region, Room 102  
11018 NE 51st Circle, Vancouver, WA

**Wednesday, July 1, 2009 | 6-8PM**  
Presentation at 6:30PM  
Jantzen Beach SuperCenter, Community Room  
(across from the food court)  
1405 N Jantzen Beach Center, Portland, OR

**Transit Information**  
C-TRAN: www.C-TRAN.com or 360-695-0123  
TriMet: www.TriMet.org or 503-238-RIDE

**Project Information**  
www.ColumbiaRiverCrossing.org or 1-866-396-2726

Translators are available if requested three business days before each event.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information: Materials can be provided in an alternative format. Please call the Columbia River Crossing project office at (360) 737-2726 or (503) 256-2726. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact CRC using Telecommunications Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1.

Title VI Statement to Public: The Columbia River Crossing project team ensures full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex in the provision of benefits and services resulting from its federally assisted programs and activities.

**Is it too hot to leave your dog in the car today?**

For more information, visit:  
**www.MyDogsCool.com**

This important message made possible by:  
**ANIMAL PROTECTION INSTITUTE**

# The Asian Reporter

Volume 19 Number 24  
June 23, 2009  
ISSN: 1094-9453

The Asian Reporter is published on Tuesday.  
Send all correspondence to: The Asian Reporter  
922 N Killingsworth Street, Suite 1A, Portland, OR 97217  
Phone: (503) 283-4440, Fax: (503) 283-4445  
News Department e-mail: news@asianreporter.com  
Advertising Department e-mail: ads@asianreporter.com  
General e-mail: info@asianreporter.com  
Resource website: www.asianreporter.com

Please send reader feedback, Asian-related press releases, and community interest ideas/stories to the addresses listed above.  
Please include a contact phone number.

Advertising information available upon request.

Publisher **Jaime Lim**  
Contributing Editors  
**Ronault L.S. Catalani (Polo), Jeff Wenger**  
Correspondents

**Ian Blazina, Josephine Bridges, Pamela Ellgen, Maileen Hamto,  
Edward J. Han, A.P. Kryza, Marie Lo, Simeon Mamaril,  
Allison Rupp, Julie Stegeman, Toni Tabora-Roberts**  
Illustrator **Jonathan Hill**  
News Service **Associated Press/Newsfinder**  
Billing Manager **Jennifer Lim**

Copyright 2009. Opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of the authors and not necessarily those of this publication.

## Member

Associated Press/Newsfinder  
Asian American Journalists Association  
Better Business Bureau  
Pacific Northwest Minority Publishers (PNMP)  
Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon

## Correspondence:

The Asian Reporter welcomes reader response and participation.  
Please send all correspondence to:  
Mail: 922 N Killingsworth, Suite 1A, Portland, OR 97217-2220  
Phone: (503) 283-4440 \*\* Fax: (503) 283-4445  
News Department e-mail: news@asianreporter.com  
General e-mail: info@asianreporter.com

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES (U.S. rates only)

Individual Subscription (sent bulk rate):

25 weeks: \$25     50 weeks: \$40

Individual Subscription (sent first class mail):

25 weeks: \$35     50 weeks: \$60

Office (5 copies to one address):

25 weeks: \$60     50 weeks: \$90

Institutional (25 copies to one address):

25 weeks: \$125     50 weeks: \$200

## NEW SUBSCRIBER / ADDRESS CORRECTION INFORMATION FORM:

Subscriber's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with payment or Fax with credit card information to:  
The Asian Reporter, Attn: Subscription Dept.,  
922 N Killingsworth Street, Suite 1A, Portland, OR 97217-2220  
Phone: (503) 283-4440 \* Fax: (503) 283-4445

For VISA, Mastercard or American Express payment only:

Name (as it appears on the card): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Card (circle):    VISA    Mastercard    American Express

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_    Address of card: \_\_\_\_\_

The last four issues of *The Asian Reporter* are available for pick up free at our office 24 hours a day at 922 N Killingsworth, Suite 1A, Portland, Oregon.

Back issues of *The Asian Reporter* may be ordered by mail at the following rates: First copy: \$1.50  
Additional copies ordered at the same time: \$1.00 each  
Send orders to: Asian Reporter Back Issues,  
922 N. Killingsworth St., Suite 1A, Portland, OR 97217-2220

The Asian Reporter welcomes reader response and participation. If you have a comment on a story we have printed, or have an Asian-related personal or community focus idea, please contact us. Please include a contact name, address, and phone number on all correspondence. Thank you.



## MY TURN

■ Toni Tabora-Roberts



# Putting on our dancing shoes

In conjuring up images of Asians dancing, what most likely comes to mind for many of us is something like the traditional Chinese lion dance, or perhaps a Khmer (Cambodian) or Indian classical dance, each complete with imported, exotic music and elaborate, colorful costumes. As a teen growing up as part of the Philippine American Youth of Ohio, I spent weekends toiling away learning Filipino folk dances which we performed in the community. (The dance I did was a Filipino peasant dance in which we mimicked the planting and harvesting of rice. It was cute.)

While these types of “back-to-your-roots” dances certainly have cultural value and highlight the diversity of Asian ethnicities and experiences, I often worry these images also serve to keep Asian Americans “other-ized” and create a false sense of cultural diversity in our community.

Which brings me to reality. Reality TV. I know, as a good liberal I probably should not admit I own a TV, let alone actually enjoy watching TV, and further, that one of my favorite things to watch is reality TV — in particular, the American voter-driven dance competitions “America’s Best Dance Crew” (a.k.a. ABDC) and “So You Think You Can Dance?” (a.k.a. SYTYCD).

As with many of these types of reality shows, the American public phones in votes for its favorite competitors. With that in mind, here are some exciting factoids about my favorite dance TV shows (which may give a clue as to why I’m fascinated):

- ♦ All three of the winning dance crews of ABDC for its completed three seasons were predominantly Asian Pacific American (APA) — JabbaWockeeZ, Super Cr3w, and Quest Crew.

- ♦ The year JabbaWockeeZ won ABDC, MTV announced that more than 40 million viewers voted.

- ♦ Many other ABDC dance crews included APAs among their dancers, most notably (and most popularly) Kaba Modern, SoReal Cru, Beat Freaks (a very cool, all-girl crew), and Fanny Pak. (Fanny Pak is my all-time favorite crew. I like to think of them as the theatre-geek dance crew — quirky and creative with kick-butt moves.)

- ♦ Katee Shean, whose mom is Japanese, was the runner up on last season’s SYTYCD, winning a

surprise \$50,000 for being America’s “favorite female dancer.” (Typically, there’s only a top prize of \$250,000 for the overall winner.)

- ♦ This season on SYTYCD, three of the top 20 dancers are APAs — Karla Garcia, Asuka Kondoh, and Kuono Aweau. Fifteen percent is not too shabby for APA representation!

I’m all for having more APA faces in the media. Often, fictional works have a difficult time placing Asians outside or beyond the more stereotypical roles. We still continually see our APA brothers and sisters as kung-fu artists, the heavily accented immigrant workers, or the nerdy science geeks.

What’s irresistibly fun and exciting about shows such as ABDC and SYTYCD is that we’re seeing Asian people (and Latinos and African Americans) on TV doing what they do. They are being judged and lauded because of their creativity and talent without (much) regard for their ethnicity. What’s more, these programs are hugely popular. Tens of millions of people across the country tune in and call in to vote.

Of course a show like SYTYCD certainly takes into account the diversity of its cast when choosing the top 20 dancers. (SYTYCD is a veritable Benetton ad of gorgeous young faces and bodies.) However, the diversity is more interestingly layered, based not just on looks, but also dance styles, experience, and personality. With that, we’ve been blessed with a cast that includes a Japanese American who performs extremely sexy Latin ballroom dancing and a Hawaiian contemporary dancer with nary a hula skirt in sight. Who would have guessed reality TV could actually help break stereotypes?

The other night I was out for happy hour with some very smart, progressive, activist APA friends. Somehow, SYTYCD bubbled up in the conversation. I was surprised (and exonerated) to hear that five of the six of us were giddy with excitement for this season’s competition, which is just getting underway. Sure, we can think of it as a silly, cheesy reality TV show (which it is), but we can also look at it as a mainstream media platform that has embraced images of a variety of talented people of color. Either way, I’ll be tuning in each week.

Opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of the authors and not necessarily those of this publication.

**Advertise your business, service, or recruitment advertisement in The Asian Reporter!**

For information, call (503) 283-4440 or e-mail <ads@asianreporter.com>.

## TALKING STORY IN ASIAN AMERICA

■ Polo



## New Portland

I have an idea. Okay, it's not a new idea, but you know not many are.

My idea is drawn from the same reasoning folks used when they came up with New Delhi and New York and New Year. They said Old Delhi was cozy but a little cramped. And the old York, smack in the center of stinky old U.K., was staid and a bit stuck, so they conceptualized an energetic *New York* — a place with a harbor open to a new world of ideas. And on the same upbeat note, every December 31 an old year's done and a new one promises a lot more fun.

So okay, here's an idea we could call "New Portland." Pero relax. Breathe easy. This is *not* an idea about renaming anything. It's not about an avenue running downtown to Chinatown. No northside businesses or eastside activists need to organize around or against it.

It's more of a belief about us than an argument about a person, place, or thing.

It's a belief about our American ability to reinvent ourselves — that incessant creativity the rest of our marvellous blue marble looks up to.

But first, a word (actually three) about some old burdens sucking the vitality right out of our financial and emotional reserves. Bad national mortgages we need to move from.

**Some ugly history**

Right up until last fiscal year, America owned unprecedented wealth. Right up until that last accounting quarter, we were able to squander incalculable sums of money, love, and time, dealing with some ugly history. Or not dealing with it. The awful chapters are easy to cite. Ask any New Delhi college kid or any old York blue-collar stiff; ask any elder auntie in New Mexico or the old one just next door.

America is chocked by three enduring burdens: ethnocide got us this continent; slavery lit our economy; racialized immigration policies have kept us in a constant state of insecurity. The accumulated violence and suppressed guilt of our mainstream, taken together with the intergenerational evisceration of our subordinated ethnic minority streams, make for one badly disabled nation.

Portland, Oregon — from the tidy Pearl out to chaotic 82nd — is no exception.

But we are not bound to the patterns and practices of this legacy. Not a lot of us swear by it. On the contrary, Portlanders plan and build our future on principles of sustainability and equity. Everyone recalls city council trading that cool sky trolley humming between très chic South Waterfront and the tip-top of pill hill, for affordable housing. For nice homes for our poor folks. And who hasn't seen our mayor getting as focused on schools failing brown boys as he's been on sooty skies, green roofs, and sweaty bikeways.

A sustainable brick and mortar city must in the same moment be an equitable human community. Of course it's possible for civil engineers to construct, and for big blue cops to patrol, leafy and hip urban environments for one kind of Portlander — excluding and expelling other kinds of us. Of course it's possible. But just as obviously that's been tried and failed. That history has not worked. The costs of that old story to our dominant culture and to our subordinated ones are simply not sustainable. Our money, love, and time are gone.

**A new us**

We really can pattern and practice a new place. A New Portland.

Our city is alive with newcomers.

They're from New Orleans; they're from our Old World. Some are Mother India's software engineers, some are Mother Mexico's drywall hangers. Many new Portlanders fled the old Soviet Union, and many left the frantic East Bay for creative spaces on N. Mississippi.

Whatever pushed families from their homes, and whatever pulled them into our city, two propositions about new Portlanders are certain.

One: New families come full of optimism; newcomers are shamelessly ambitious and tirelessly entrepreneurial.

And two: A New Portland cannot afford to fall into the old toxic policies of subordination. We cannot squander one more moment of energetic humanity. That stuff can't make it into our city's new budget.

An expression of New Portland is City Hall's neighborhood coalition offices cutting deep into their permanent budgets to make room for immigrant and ethnic minority Portland's organizations. Establishing equity among old and new participants in local democracy. New Portland is CIO and Urban League, NAYA and Latino Network and IRCO, each contributing each community's considerable social and cultural capital to our city's common treasury. Securing a much broader-shouldered and more open-hearted kitchen table when city council takes a break to catch a bite.

**A new city planner**

New Portland will require comprehensive principles and practices integrating newcomers into the life of our city.

Portland police officers *not* talking to federal immigration cops is a good start but it's not enough. Our cops handing newcomers over to Multnomah County officers chatty with the feds, is in effect a return to the inefficiencies and inequities of Old Portland. It's outsourcing an ugly old habit.

A Ukrainian ethnomusicologist selling Parkrose real estate, a Togo electrical engineer sitting at home, are both failures for us to integrate. Imagine their minds at work for Portland. Efficiencies maximized. Bitterness mitigated. Everyone breathing easier.

Between slurps and sighs, most adults

**A New Portland cannot afford to fall into the old toxic policies of subordination. We cannot squander one more moment of energetic humanity. That stuff can't make it into our city's new budget.**

at our Saturday morning noodleshop table speak their regional or tribal lingua, *and* their national language, *and* their former-colonial language. And English. Imagine how many more families would feel like Portlanders if firefighters and pool lifeguards, if Water Bureau workers and information line staffers, could say the same.

Imagine a grandma panicked by flames, panicked further by her suddenly evaporated English, hearing my accent and knowing we understand each other. That's public service to the max. That's a Portlanders' home saved. That's an American believer redeemed.

Here's an idea; okay it's not exactly a new one, tentu it's as old as history, pero dig this: City Hall employs thousands and serves millions and spends billions. Those jobs and contracting opportunities, those facilities and services, can make us a New Portland, an equitable and sustainable place where mainstreamers and ethnic streamers, where newcomers and old neighbors, homeless and document-less, can create what New Delhi and New York and New Year re-create. Free of old ugliness. Full of new energy.

You know, the way we are.

♦

Nota:

CIO: Center for Intercultural Organizing;

NAYA: Native American Youth and Family Center;

IRCO: Immigrant and Refugee

Community Organization.

## Internal Revenue Service offers summer tax tips

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has issued a statement advising taxpayers that some summer activities may qualify for tax breaks and that addressing certain issues now may help avoid problems at tax time.

"Enjoy the summer, but be careful not to miss out on tax breaks or create tax problems," said IRS spokesman John Stout.

The IRS offers the following tips for lowering taxes and avoiding future tax problems:

- Summer workers are sometimes misclassified as independent contractors (self-employed) rather than employees, and employees should make sure they are correctly classified. Employers who do this usually fail to withhold taxes from the worker's wages, often leaving the worker responsible at tax time for paying income taxes in addition to Social Security and Medicare taxes. Workers can avoid higher tax bills and lost benefits if they know their proper status.

- Student summer workers may be exempt from tax withholding. If a taxpayer received a refund of all withheld income taxes for 2008 and expects the same for 2009, he or she may claim "exempt" on Form W-4 when hired. That can increase paychecks and possibly exempt the individual from filing a 2009 federal tax return. If a person claims exempt status, the employer should withhold Social Security and Medicare taxes but no federal

income tax.

- Newlyweds can help make wedded bliss last longer by doing a few things to avoid problems at tax time. First, report any name change to the Social Security Administration before filing next year's tax return. Next, report any address changes to the U.S. Postal Service, employers, and the IRS to ensure tax-related items are received. Finally, use the Withholding Calculator at <www.irs.gov> to make sure the withholding is correct now that there are two people to consider.

- Clean out, donate, and deduct long-unused items found during spring or summer cleaning to a qualified charity. The donation may garner a tax deduction

### OBT offers Obonfest commemorative lanterns for purchase

*Continued from page one*

During last year's ObonFest, 150 lanterns were strung on lines radiating from the center of the dance area.

Orders must be received by July 12. To download an order form, visit <www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com>.

The Oregon Buddhist Temple is located at 3720 S.E. 34th Avenue, near Powell Boulevard, in Portland. To learn more, call (503) 234-9456, e-mail <oregonbuddhisttemple@yahoo.com>, or visit <www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com>.

as long as the items are in good condition. Donations must be itemized to qualify as deductible charitable contributions and proof of donations must be provided.

- While there's no tax deduction for time donated toward a charitable cause, driving a personal vehicle while donating services on a trip sponsored by a qualified charity could garner a tax break. Itemizers can deduct 14 cents per mile for charitable mileage driven in 2009. Remember to keep good records of mileage.

- Many working parents must arrange for care of their children younger than 13 during the school vacation period. A popular solution — with favorable tax consequences — is a day camp program. Unlike overnight camps, the cost of day

camp may count as an expense toward the Child and Dependent Care Credit.

- Owners of vacation homes may qualify for two tax breaks. First, mortgage interest and real estate taxes paid on a second home are usually deductible if itemized. Second, if a vacation home is rented out fewer than 15 days per year, the rental income is typically not taxable.

- Gambling winnings must be reported on tax returns. Losses are deductible only if itemized and winnings are equal to or exceed losses. Good records are a must.

- If a taxpayer can satisfy the distance and time tests, job-related moving expenses are deductible. Other requirements apply if a person is self-employed.

*Continued on page 11*

### AALDEF releases report on Asian-American voting in 2008 election

*Continued from page one*

Chinese-American (45 percent) voters. Several sites where the exit poll was conducted were mandated to provide bilingual ballots and interpreters under the federal Voting Rights Act; other jurisdictions voluntarily provided language assistance.

- According to census data released in April 2009, Asian-American voter registration and turnout have increased in every election, with 4.2 million registered voters and a three-percent increase in voter turnout during the 2008 election.

AALDEF has conducted exit polls of Asian-American voters during every major election since 1988. In the 2004 presidential election, AALDEF surveyed 10,789 Asian-American voters in eight states. More than 100 community groups and organizations joined AALDEF to mobilize more than 1,500 attorneys, law students, and volunteers to conduct the exit poll and to safeguard the voting rights of Asian Americans.

To view the report, visit <www.aaldef.org/docs/AALDEF2008ExitPollRpt.pdf>.

# Japanese puppets teach language, meld cultures

By Alan Scher Zagier  
Associated Press Writer

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Ominous in black robes and hoods, three artists move stealthily to manipulate unique charges: four-foot Japanese puppets that are putting a new face on language instruction for college students in Missouri's heartland.

Their art is *bunraku*, an ancient form of lyrical theater in Japan, and their *sensei* (teacher) is a former Mormon missionary-turned-devotee — University of Missouri professor Martin Holman.

Holman has taken on a rotating cast of students in his Bunraku (boon-RAH-coo) Bay Puppet Troupe, considered the only traditional Japanese puppet troupe outside of Japan.

Despite their relative inexperience, the Missouri ensemble has performed at the Smithsonian Institution, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and other prestigious venues. They travel to Japan each summer to study with the 300-year-old Imada Puppet Troupe in Iida, near Nagano.

Sometimes, the initial reaction of audiences is one of disbelief, Holman said.

"Here we are, a bunch of white and black and Asian-American people doing Japanese puppetry," he said. "They look at us and go, 'How can it be authentic, it's from Missouri?' Well, put the hoods over our heads and (compare us to) any number of Japanese puppet troupes, and I'll defy you to tell us apart. Because



**PUPPET MASTERS.** Members of the Bunraku Bay Puppet Troupe perform at Rock Bridge Elementary school in Columbia, Missouri. The puppet troupe has performed at the Smithsonian Institution and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. (AP Photo/L.G. Patterson)

you can't."

Bunraku puppeteers are visible to the audience but dressed from head to toe in black, with a similarly cloaked but hoodless chanter who serves as narrator for often weighty subject matter. In one piece, a mother must again abandon the daughter she sent into exile as an infant to protect the child from a thieving samurai father. Suicide is a common topic.

The puppeteers move about the stage in threes to the eerie twang of a three-stringed, banjo-like Japanese instrument called a *shamisen*. The interplay of three is an important one to the

tradition: three puppeteers to work the rods and levers that control each figure, performing in unison with the *shamisen* player and the chanter, known as a *tayu*.

The puppets are silent, but the subtle gestures as their masters move their arms, hands, and legs convey a range of emotions.

Holman, 51, first visited Japan three decades ago as a Mormon missionary after his junior year at Brigham Young University. The zoology major who grew up in southern Indiana fell in love with the country, abandoning his designs on medical school. He came home, changed his major, and went on to earn a doctorate in Ja-

panese literature at the University of California, Berkeley.

Holman returned to Japan in 1989 for a series of teaching jobs. A stint leading a study abroad program for Michigan college students introduced him to bunraku, which demands a lifetime commitment from masters in Japan. When he returned to the United States in 1996, Holman sought to share his newfound passion with his students. He joined the Missouri faculty in 2005, teaching Japanese language and literature.

Van Gessel, a Japanese professor at Brigham Young who taught Holman at Berkeley, said

his former pupil's devotion has earned him respect among other bunraku artists.

"The expectation is that anyone who is going to devote themselves to this art will give their hearts, souls, and minds for the rest of their lives," Gessel said.

There are no such expectations at Missouri, where Holman is quick to point out few if any of his students will embark on careers as puppeteers. What troupe members can expect is immersive language training that goes far beyond rote memorization.

"If you have a common goal — which in the case of the puppetry is to operate the puppet — then you've got a reason to talk and negotiate language and figure things out," he said. "The language becomes the tool to accomplish the goal."

Missouri sophomore Taylor Morrow of Columbia is among students studying in Japan with Holman this summer. Like his *sensei*, Morrow points to puppetry as a linguistic tool as much as a performing art.

"Instead of just sitting in a room drilling vocabulary, you're actually using it," he said. "It gets stuck in your head."

Troupe member Andrew Procter, a senior international studies major from Columbia, left for his second summer in Japan with Holman. During last summer's trip, Procter said, Japanese audiences appreciated the respect the American students brought to bunraku, especially in light of disinterest among youth in Japan.

"People were very grateful," he said.

## North Korean leader Kim Jong Il's son secretly visits China

Continued from page 5

confirm the report. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told a regular news conference in Beijing that he had no knowledge of any such meeting.

Little is known about Jong Un, who was born to Kim Jong Il's late wife, Ko Yong Hi. He studied at the International School of Berne in Switzerland until 1998 under a pseudonym and learned English, German, and French, the

Swiss weekly news magazine *L'Hebdo* reported earlier this year, citing classmates and school officials.

South Korea's largest television network, KBS, reported that Jong Un's supporters tried to

assassinate his elder brother Kim Jong Nam, but that China sent agents to Macau to move him to an undisclosed location. The report quoted unidentified government sources in Beijing.

The South's Yonhap

news agency reported that North Korea's defense chief Kim Yong Chun secretly visited Beijing but did not specify his mission. Yonhap quoted an unnamed source privy to the North's affairs.

The South Korean government said it could not confirm the report. Japan's public broadcaster NHK, which carried a similar report, quoted China's Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying that "normal exchanges" are continuing between Beijing and Pyongyang, without confirming the visit.

In protest over the North's May 25 nuclear test, Japan said it would ban all exports to North Korea. Prime Minister Taro Aso's cabinet approved the measure to punish Pyongyang for its blast — its second following its first underground nuclear blast in October 2006.

Chief cabinet secretary Takeo Kawamura said the export ban "is a message" to the North.

Japan's total ban on exports came on the heels of new U.N. sanctions against North Korea. The

U.N. Security Council punished the communist country for the May blast by expanding an arms embargo and authorizing ship searches on the high seas in a bid to derail its nuclear and missile programs.

Japan imposed tight trade sanctions against the North in 2006 after Pyongyang fired a ballistic missile into waters between the two countries and conducted its first nuclear test.

Since then, bilateral trade has been reduced to minuscule levels. Japan has imported no goods from North Korea since 2007, while its exports to the North totalled just 792.6 million yen (\$8.1 million) in 2008, down 26 percent from a year earlier, according to the Finance Ministry.

Japan's current export ban covers only luxury goods such as pricey beef, caviar, alcohol, jewelry, and cars. The decision expands the ban to Japan's main exports to North Korea, including bicycles, machinery, plastic products, and fishing nets.

Associated Press writer Hyung-jin Kim in Seoul contributed to this report.

### Coloredpencils Art and Culture Night

New Portland painters, poets, musicians and story-tellers

June 26, July 31, Aug 28

www.coloredpencilsart.com  
coloredpencils.usa@gmail.com



United Way of the Columbia-Willamette

619 SW 11th, Portland, OR 97205  
5.30pm-6.30pm : Art Reception/dinner  
6.30pm-8.00pm : Open Mic

\$3 donation/kids Free  
Ethnic food vendor  
Every Last Friday event

BuildingPeace  
EndingDiscrimination  
OFFICE OF HUMAN RELATIONS • CITY OF PORTLAND

United Way of the  
Columbia-Willamette

United Way

MESO  
MICRO ENTERPRISE  
SERVICES OF OREGON

VA  
VISION INTO ACTION  
WWW.CACOREGON.ORG

THE CENTER FOR INTERCULTURAL ORGANIZING

The Asian Reporter

## Asian-American experience focus of new textbook

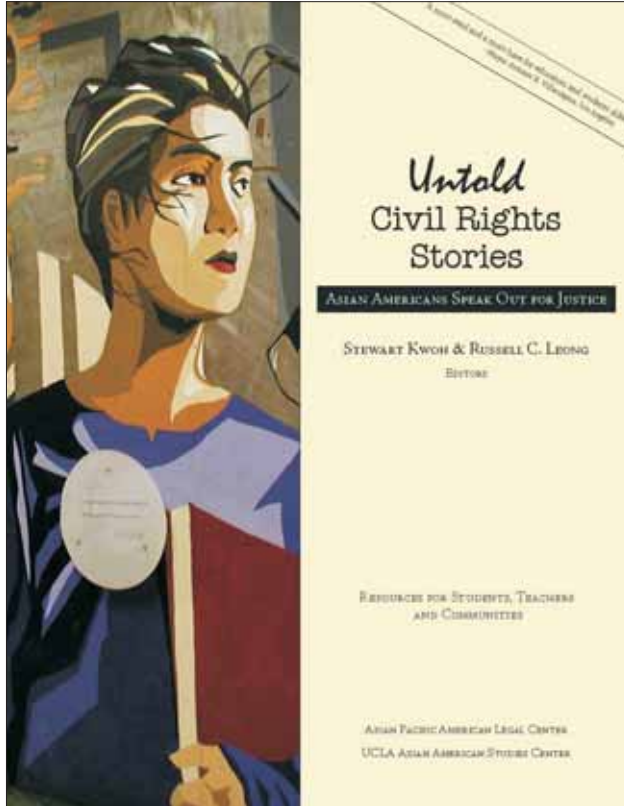
The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) has released a new textbook focused on the Asian-American experience. Representing more than 15 million Asian Americans in the United States, *Untold Civil Rights Stories* is the first book created for high school and freshmen college students to learn and discuss the social struggles Asian Americans have faced before and after September 11, 2001. The book is co-edited by UCLA Asian American Studies adjunct professor Russell C. Leong and Asian Pacific American Legal Center president and executive director Stewart Kwoh.

“Asian Americans are part of the untold story of America’s continuing civil-rights, labor, and human-rights struggles,” said editors Leong and Kwoh in a statement. “For decades, Asian Americans, together with African Americans and others, have fought discriminatory laws around segregation, citizenship, and marriage; have helped organize farm workers with César Chávez; and spoken out for the rights of American veterans and other groups.”

“Their stories are powerful and we have gathered them here in one book,” they said. “We created *Civil Rights Stories* for all Americans because this is part of America’s untold story.”

The book’s 10 fully illustrated chapters include rare newspaper and personal photos in addition to extensive lesson plans and historical timelines created by multicultural curriculum consultant Esther R. Taira.

Chapters in the book focus on oral history accounts by Thai and Latino sweatshop workers; Philip Vera Cruz and the United Farm Workers Movement; hate crimes;



breaking the color line in the media; struggles for constitutional rights; and more.

To learn more, or to purchase a copy of *Untold Civil Rights Stories*, call (310) 825-2968 or visit <www.aasc.ucla.edu/aascpress>.

## North Clackamas summer program offers free lunches for kids

With many families facing hard times, volunteer Kathi Schroeder said she understands the importance of summer food programs run by North Clackamas Schools.

“This is about more than just a free, nutritious lunch,” said Schroeder. “The fun part is providing games and activities for the kids.”

The drop-in program offers free lunches to all students as well as \$3 lunches for adults. The program is open Mondays through Thursdays from 11:30am to 12:30pm between July 6 and 30.

Several churches partner in the federally funded effort, lending volunteers to supervise youth activities. Activities vary at each venue and may include sack races, board games, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, and more.

Free lunches are offered at the following sites:

- Clackamas Elementary School, 15301 S.E. 92nd Avenue, Clackamas, Oregon
- Linwood Elementary School, 11909 S.E. Linwood Avenue, Milwaukie, Oregon
- Oak Grove Elementary School, 2150 S.E. Torbank Road, Milwaukie, Oregon
- The Terrace at Mt. Scott, 10125 S.E. Bob Schumacher Road, Portland

To learn more, visit <www.nclack.k12.or.us>. To volunteer, call Daryl Dixon at (503) 353-1900 or e-mail <dixondar@nclack.k12.or.us>.

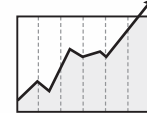


### LOTTERY FUNDS HELPED AN OREGON BUSINESS RECLAIM OIL FROM DISCARDED AGRICULTURAL PLASTICS. GROWING THINKING. GROWING JOBS.

**B**ig ideas often start in unexpected ways. Like in a recycling facility right here in Oregon, in the little town of Brooks, where a recycling company called Agri-Plas Inc. came up with a breakthrough. They developed a way to convert waste plastic into fuel. While much plastic can be recycled, a large percentage of it cannot and is destined for landfills. But through a brilliant but relatively simple process, they're able to convert plastic



back into the stuff that it came from. Oil. Finding new life for things that would have otherwise been thrown away. Their growth and expansion, and the addition of sustainable, productive jobs to the area is due in part to funding from the Oregon Lottery.® Where every year, a large portion of our profits go directly to helping businesses like this prosper and grow.



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Mystic India

Through June 28, Oregon Museum of Science & Industry (1945 SE Water Ave, Portland). Watch *Mystic India*, a documentary about 11-year-old Neelkanth, who in the late 18th century walked barefoot for seven years and 8,000 miles across the Indian subcontinent. The film is part of the OMSI Film Festival. (India, 2005, Keith Melton, 40 mins.) For info, including showtimes, call (503) 797-4640 or visit <www.oms.edu>.

### Recent Travels

Through Aug 1, 11am-6pm (Tue-Sat); July 2, 5:30-8:30pm (reception); Charles A. Hartman Fine Art (134 NW Eighth Ave, Portland). View Recent Travels, an exhibit of photographs by Michael Kenna featuring images taken during the artist's travels in more than 10 countries, including China, Japan, India, Italy, Norway, and Egypt. For info, call (503) 287-3886 or visit <www.hartmanfineart.net>.

### Pacific Voices

Through Aug 7, 10am-5pm (daily), Burke Museum (NE 45th St & 17th Ave NE, Seattle). View Pacific Voices, an exhibit showcasing 17 different Pacific Rim cultures and how they adapt and remain vibrant in a changing modern world. The display includes Asian art, information on the revival of a dying language, teachings of tribal elders, artifacts, and more. See related story by Ronault L.S. Catalani ("The Burke exhibit, the American experiment," *AR*, May 2, 2006), a review of the book *Pacific Voices: Keeping our Cultures Alive*, at <www.asianreporter.com>. For info, call (206) 543-5590 or visit <www.burkemuseum.org>.

### Ho'omau ka Huaka'i exhibit

Through Aug 16, 10am-5pm (Tue-Sun), Wing Luke Asian Museum (WLAM), Safeco Insurance Foundation Special Exhibition Gallery (719 S King St, Seattle). View Ho'omau ka Huaka'i, The Voyage Continues: Native Hawaiians in the Pacific Northwest, an exhibit featuring artifacts, photographs, multimedia, and first-hand stories from Native Hawaiian civic and cultural leaders in addition to digitized photos, documents, and oral histories collected specifically for the exhibit. For info, call (206) 623-5124 or visit <www.wingluke.org>.

### CSI: The Experience

Through Sep 7 (daily), 9:30am-7pm, Oregon Museum of Science & Industry (1945 SE Water Ave, Portland). View CSI: The Experience, an immersive exhibit allowing visitors to join forces with a team of investigators and test their crime-solving skills to solve a case. Participants identify and record evidence, perform scientific testing and pathology analysis, and build a case based on their findings. For info, call (503) 797-4000 or visit <www.oms.edu>.

### The Mosque in Morgantown

June 23, 11pm-midnight, Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch *The Mosque in Morgantown*, a film following what happened when former *Wall Street Journal* reporter Asra Nomani returned to her hometown in West Virginia to find the mosque taken over by men she considered extremists. The show is part of Public Broadcasting Service's America at a Crossroads series. To verify showtime, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.



*The Mosque in Morgantown*

### Asian gardens class

June 23-July 16 (Tue-Thu), 1-3:45pm, Downtown Portland. Learn about the culture, history, and politics of key gardens in Asia at "The Cultural Politics of Asian Gardens," a class presented by the Portland State University International Studies Program. The class, which is open to the public, includes trips to the Portland Classical Chinese Garden, the Portland Japanese Garden, and other area gardens. For info, location, or to register, call (503) 725-3455 or visit <www.pdx.edu/isp>.

### Talk Time at Holgate Library

June 24, 6:30-7:45pm, Holgate Library (7905 SE Holgate Blvd, Portland). Join other non-native English speakers at an informal conversation circle for people who want to practice speaking English. Talk Time is not a class, but an opportunity to meet new people, share culture, and have fun. Only English is spoken. For info, call (503) 988-5389 or visit <events.multco.lib.org>.

### OMSI After Dark

June 24, 7-11pm, Oregon Museum of Science & Industry (1945 SE Water Ave, Portland). Peruse OMSI exhibits, discuss the science of beer with a local brewer, and more at OMSI After Dark, an event for persons age 21 and older. Visitors can taste and learn the science behind food and beverages while probing OMSI's exhibits and labs. For info, call (503) 797-4000 or visit <www.oms.edu>.

### Hallowed Grounds

June 24, 11pm-midnight, Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch *Hallowed Grounds*, a program that visits World War I and World War II American military cemeteries in the Philippines, England, France, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Belgium, Italy, and Tunisia. To verify showtimes, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

### Human trafficking talk

June 25, 6pm, Kells Irish Restaurant & Pub (112 SW Second Ave, Portland). Join former Washington congresswoman Linda Smith for "Human Trafficking: From the Halls of Congress to the Streets of Bombay," a free talk presented by the City Club of



**MYSTIC INDIA.** *Mystic India, a documentary about 11-year-old Neelkanth, who in the late 18th century walked barefoot for seven years and 8,000 miles across the Indian subcontinent, is screening through June 28 at the Oregon Museum of Science & Industry's OMNIMAX Dome Theater. (Photos courtesy of Oregon Museum of Science & Industry)*

Portland. For info, or to register, call (503) 228-7231, ext. 110, e-mail <amy@pdxcityclub.org>, or visit <www.pdxcityclub.org>.

### Nerve disorders talk

June 25, 7-8:30pm, Providence St. Vincent Medical Center (9205 SW Barnes Rd, Portland). Join Dr. David Wilkinson for "Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and other Nerve Disorders," a talk about carpal tunnel syndrome, diabetic nerve problems, and other peripheral nerve disorders caused by repetitive computer and electronic device use, obesity, and other activities and conditions. For info, or to register, call (503) 574-6595 or visit <www.providence.org/classes>.

### Living Well workshops

June 25-July 30 (Thu), 1-3:30pm, Multnomah County East Building, Room 100 (600 NE Eighth St, Gresham, Ore.). Attend a free multi-week workshop designed for people with chronic health conditions — such as diabetes, asthma, depression, anxiety, cancer, heart disease, arthritis, HIV/AIDS, and others — and their family and friends. Participants learn skills for living a full and healthy life, share successes, and build a common source of support. For info, or to register (required), call (503) 988-3840.

### Community Strategic Training Institute

June 26 (registration deadline). Attend the Community Strategic Training Institute, a three-day training and networking event for community-based leaders, staff, and volunteers of groups organizing for justice. The event, scheduled from July 31 to August 2 at Reed College (3203 SE Woodstock Blvd, Portland), features daylong workshops, plenary sessions, and networking opportunities. For info, or to register, call (503) 228-8866 or visit <www.westernstatescenter.org>.

### City Club Friday Forum

June 26, 12:15-1:15pm, Governor Hotel (SW 10th Ave & SW Alder St, Portland). Attend a Friday Forum event of the City Club of Portland featuring Oregon attorney general John Kroger. Reservations are required for lunches only and are due by June 24 at 2pm. General seating and coffee/tea table tickets are available at the door. For info, or to register, call (503) 228-7231 or visit <www.pdxcityclub.org>.

### CIO Annual Party

June 26, 6pm, Center for Intercultural Organizing (700 N Killingsworth St, Portland). Attend a celebration party of the Center for Intercultural Organizing (CIO). The sixth annual event honors the commitment, energy, and passion of CIO's members and volunteers. Reservations are requested. For info, or to buy tickets, call (503) 287-4117 or visit <www.interculturalorganizing.org>.

### "Guam, Where East Meets West"

June 26, 6-6:30pm, Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch "Guam, Where East Meets West," an episode of Passport to Adventure exploring the island's turquoise waters, lush jungles, cosmopolitan shopping, and historical sites. To verify showtime, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

### "Foreign Exchange" with Daljit Dhaliwal

June 26, 8:30-9pm; repeats June 27, 2:30-3am; Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch a weekly global affairs series hosted by accomplished international journalist Daljit Dhaliwal. The show probes global questions of the moment and provides diverse points of view through one-on-one interviews with newsmakers, politicians, diplomats, and journalists from around the world. To verify showtimes, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

### "Transforming the Inner Critic, Level 2"

June 26-28, 5pm (Fri)-1pm (Sun), Great Vow Zen Monastery (79640 Quincy-Mayger Rd, Clatskanie, Ore.). Attend Level 2 of a retreat at which participants explore practical tools to help

transform the voice of the Inner Critic into wisdom. The event is designed for those who have attended an introductory Inner Critic weekend or done Voice Dialogue work with the Inner Critic in the past. The retreat is led by Zen teachers Jan Chozen Bays and Hogen Bays. For info, or to register, call (503) 728-0654 or visit <www.zendust.org/innercritic.htm>.

### "Simply Ming"

June 27, 1-1:30pm, Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Join renowned chef Ming Tsai as he presents his weekly cooking show, "Simply Ming." The show is based on the premise that a few very simple recipes for sauces, salsas, pastes, rubs, stocks, syrups, and dough can be used to make a wide variety of delicious, timesaving dishes. This week's topic is "Miso/Butter." To verify showtimes, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>. To learn more, visit <www.ming.com/simplyming>.

### "Iran's Historic Capitals"

June 27, 7:30-8pm; repeats June 28, 9-9:30am; Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch "Iran's Historic Capitals," an episode of Rick Steves' Europe exploring three historic capitals of Iran: Persepolis, with its splendid monuments; Shiraz, with the tombs of Iran's most beloved poets; and Esfahan, with its extraordinary mosques and endearing people. To verify showtimes, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

### Virtual JFK

June 27-28 & July 4-5, Hollywood Theatre (4122 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland). Watch Koji Masutani's *Virtual JFK*, a "virtual history" film exploring what president John F. Kennedy might have done in Vietnam if he hadn't been assassinated in 1963. (USA, 2008, Koji Masutani, 80 mins.) For info, including showtimes, call (503) 281-4215 or visit <www.hollywoodtheatre.org>. To learn more, visit <www.virtualjfk.com>.

### Central Library eco-roof tours

June 27 & 30, noon-12:30pm (Tue), 10:30-11am (Sat), Multnomah County Central Library (801 SW 10th Ave, Portland). Take a tour of the Central Library's eco-roof. The tour starts at the first floor welcome desk. For info, or to register (required), call (503) 988-5234 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

### Lents International Farmers Market

June 28, 9am-2pm, Crossroads Plaza (SE 92nd Ave & SE Foster Rd, Portland). Enjoy fresh local produce and entertainment at the weekly Lents International Farmers Market. The market features vendors and food from around the world, live music, and kids' activities. For info, call (503) 282-4245 or visit <www.zengerfarm.org>.

### Free women's defense classes

June 28, 10am-12:45pm & 1:45-4:15pm, Clackamas, Ore. Attend "Personal Protection Strategies for Women," a free class for women and girls age 14 and older, presented by Clackamas County Community Corrections and the American Council on Criminal Justice Training. The class covers myths about sexual assault, profiles of offenders, strategies for avoiding date rape, risk factors, and more. For info, including location, or to register (by June 25), call Rex M. Mercer at (503) 722-6017 or e-mail <rexmer@co.clackamas.or.us>.

### Nagoshi-no-O-Harahi

June 28, 10:30am (registration), 11am (ceremony), Tsubaki Grand Shrine of America (17720 Crooked Mile Rd, Granite Falls, Wash.). Observe one of the most enjoyable and interesting ceremonies of the Shinto tradition. The *Nagoshi-no-O-Harahi* ("great purification") ceremony purifies and refreshes the *ki* for the second half of the year. For info, call (360) 691-6389 or visit <www.tsubakishrine.com>.

### Oregon City garden tour

June 28, noon-4pm, various locations in Oregon City, Ore. Attend the Garden of Natural Delights tour, featuring the beautiful, chemical-free backyards of passionate home gardeners, including flower beds, edibles, naturoscapes, and live chickens as well as short seminars on rain gardens and wise watering. For info, specific locations, or to register, call (503) 234-3000 or visit <www.oregonmetro.gov/garden>.

### Persia House picnic

June 28, noon-5pm, Oaks Park (7805 SE Oaks Park Way, near the east end of the Sellwood Bridge, Portland). Attend a free picnic of Persia House, a nonprofit, nonpolitical organization for the public benefit. Everyone is welcome. For info, call (503) 725-5214 or visit <www.persia.pdx.edu>.

### Talk Time at Central Library

June 28, 1:30-3pm, Multnomah County Central Library, Room 2B (801 SW 10th Ave, Portland). Join other non-native English speakers at an informal conversation circle for people who want to practice speaking English. Talk Time is not a class, but an opportunity to meet new people, share culture, and have fun. Only English is spoken. For info, call (503) 988-5123 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

### New Muslim Cool

June 28, 10:30pm-midnight, Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch *New Muslim Cool*, a documentary by P.O.V. about a Puerto Rican-American rapper in Pittsburgh who reaches out to others using his Muslim faith and music. To verify showtime, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

### Bugs!

Opens June 29, 11am, 2pm, 4pm & 6pm, Oregon Museum of Science & Industry, OMNIMAX Dome Theater (1945 SE Water Ave, Portland). Watch *Bugs!*, a documentary exploring the hidden world of insects in the Borneo rainforest. The film was shot using a technology that magnifies the creepy crawlies by up to 250,000 times their normal size. (United Kingdom, 2003, Mike Slee, 40 mins.) For info, including dates and showtimes, call (503) 797-4640 or visit <www.oms.edu>.

### Computer lab for beginners in Chinese

June 29, 5-7:30pm, Midland Library (805 SE 122nd Ave,

*Continued on page 11*

## Portland filmmaker to make debut at Palm Springs International Shortfest

Recent Art Institute of Portland digital film and video graduate Johnny Le's short film *Lick* will debut at the 2009 Palm Springs International Shortfest this week. The festival, now in its 15th year, features 315 films selected from 2,500 international entries. Le's film is among 76 world premieres screening at the festival.



Johnny Le

Vietnamese-American filmmaker Le, who lives in Portland, runs Johnny Le Films, LLC, a company specializing in music videos, short films, and new media. He produced numerous music videos and short films before pursuing directing.

*Lick* tells the story of an enthusiastic third grader with a compulsion to touch objects such as the gum under his desk, markers, and twigs. When he finds the perfect opportunity to show his feelings for a classmate, what he considers to be the best way to demonstrate his affection results in disaster.

To learn more, visit <www.licktheshort.com>, <www.johnnylefilms.com>, or <www.psfilmfest.org>.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Continued from page 10

Portland). Attend a computer class for beginners designed to hone computer skills. Assistance is available in Chinese, English, and Spanish. For info, call (503) 988-5392 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

### Free/reduced-cost swim lessons

June 29-July 10 (Mon-Fri), David Douglas Swimming Pool (SE 130th Ave & SE Taylor Ct, Portland). Learn to swim or improve current swimming skills at a two-week session of lessons offered by the David Douglas School District. Lessons are offered free or at a reduced cost for those who qualify. There is no lesson on July 3. For info, including times, or to register, call (503) 261-8378.

### Language-immersion summer camp

June 29-July 10 (Mon-Fri), 8am-4pm, International School (025 SW Sherman St, Portland). Children are invited to have a summer of fun while learning Japanese, Chinese, or Spanish with native-speaking teachers at the International School's summer camp program. Along with language instruction, the camps feature cultural performances, art, and age-specific activities such as special classes, swimming lessons, and field trips. Camp is not held on July 3. For info, or to register, call (503) 226-2496 or visit <www.intlschool.org>.

### Economic crisis town hall meeting

June 30, 7-8:30pm, St. Charles Church (5310 NE 42nd Ave, Portland). Learn about the current economic crisis and available resources and services at a Cully/Concordia neighborhood town hall meeting presented by Jobs for Justice and other organizations. The event includes talks by Portland State University economics professor Robin Hahnel and Verde representative Alan Hipolito; breakout group discussions on healthcare, renters' rights, jobs, and foreclosures; information tables; refreshments (6:30pm); and more. Free childcare is available with advance notice. For info, or to reserve childcare, call (503) 236-5573 or visit <www.jwjpdx.org>.

### Medicine Buddha meditation

June 30, 7-9pm, Drukpa Mila Center (872 Belmont St NE, Salem, Ore.). Take part in meditation practice with the Venerable Lama Karma Namgyel to learn the Medicine Buddha *sadhana* (long form), including chanting, pronunciation, visualization, and mantra. For info, call (503) 363-3560, e-mail <dselbylite@earthlink.net>, or visit <www.sacredesignpdx.com>.

### Health equity and policy training

July 1, 6-9pm, Urban League of Portland (10 N Russell St, Portland). Attend a training session on advanced health equity and policy designed for people who wish to volunteer for the Health Equity and Reform Team—a group providing leadership, policy analysis, and organization for Asian and Pacific Islander health in Oregon. For info, call (503) 896-7560, e-mail <info@apano.org>, or visit <www.apano.org>.

### Cancer prevention and survival cooking

July 1-Aug 19 (Wed, except July 29), 6-8pm, Whole Foods Market (1210 NW Couch St, Portland). Attend Cancer Prevention and Survival Cooking courses presented by the Cancer Project, a national nonprofit dedicated to advancing cancer prevention. Topics include how foods fight cancer (July 1); low-fat foods (July 8); fiber (July 15); dairy alternatives (July 22); meat replacements (Aug 5); cancer-fighting compounds and immune-boosting foods (Aug 12); and maintaining a healthy weight (Aug 19). For info, or to register, call (503) 525-4343. To learn more, visit <www.cancerproject.org>.

# Neighborhood watch

## Tsunami Warning

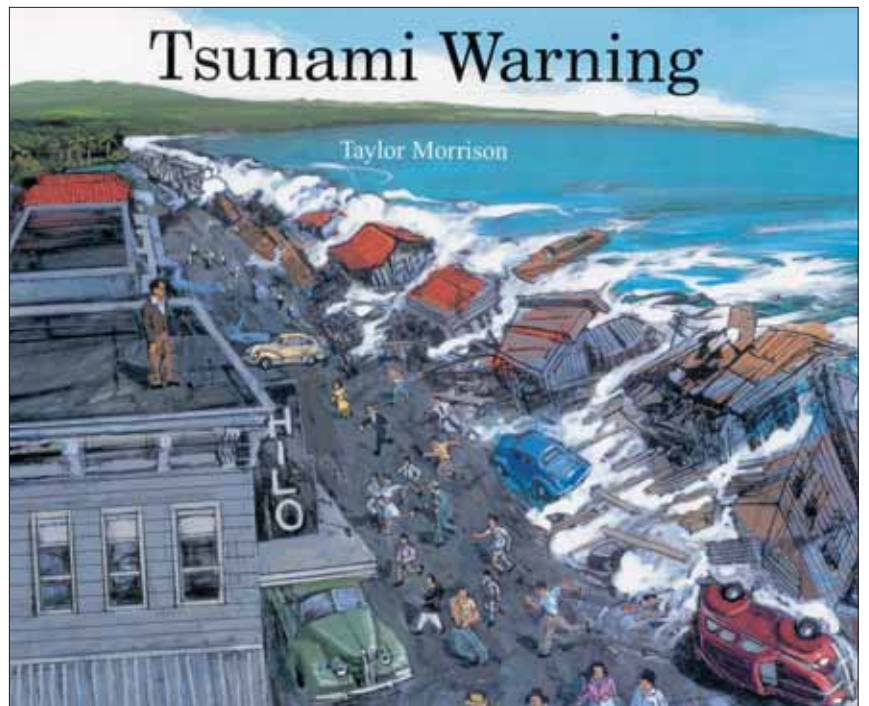
By Taylor Morrison  
Houghton Mifflin, 2007  
Hardcover, 32 pages, \$17.00

By Josephine Bridges  
The Asian Reporter

My uncle the librarian — who I thank for my love of reading — and my uncle the Earth Science teacher — who I thank for my love of this planet — would have marvelled at *Tsunami Warning*. It's informative and thrilling, and it would have appealed to me just as much when I was following my uncles around asking endless questions as it does today. Not every kid is going to have the patience to wade through the technical information, but that's okay; there's plenty of drama here. Stunning illustrations, too.

*Tsunami Warning* begins with a gripping description and depiction of the December 2004 tsunami in the Indian Ocean in which more than 230,000 people lost their lives, then leaps back in time to 1925, when scientists were developing two revolutionary theories: "The first was continental drift, or what we call plate tectonics today, the idea that a thin outer shell surrounds the earth and fits together like giant puzzle pieces, and when the pieces slip past one another an earthquake is created. Many American scientists thought this idea was ridiculous. The second theory was that undersea earthquakes and tsunamis were connected somehow."

Twenty years later, an earthquake shook the Aleutian Islands off the Alaskan coast and a lighthouse and its crew of five disappeared. Travel-



**SEISMIC STUDIES.** The 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami swept over entire islands, wiping some of them completely off the map and killing more than 230,000 people. In *Tsunami Warning*, author and illustrator Taylor Morrison explains how scientists developed the first Seismic Sea Wave Warning System and are studying the powerful waves to save lives by decreasing false alarms and reacting with greater speed and accuracy to real threats.

ling at 500 miles an hour, tsunami waves reached Hawaii after a few hours. "Early in the morning the storekeepers, fishermen, and children of Hilo Bay witnessed a bizarre sight. The huge bay was dried up! Men who worked on the docks loading sugar ran into the bay to grab the stranded fish flopping around."

The tsunami "claimed 159 lives and caused \$25 million in damage." The Seismic Sea Wave Warning System was in place two years later, but it wasn't until 1957, when "a powerful earthquake sent shock waves to seismic stations around the world," that the system was put to the test.

"Undersea earthquakes do not always create tsunamis, and false alarms are extremely costly," but people were ordered away from the water and ships sent out to sea. The waves caused \$3 million in damage, but this time, not one life was lost.

If you think of the Pacific Rim as your neighborhood, you'll agree we owe the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, which was known as the Coast and Geodetic Survey back in 1925, a great debt of gratitude for keeping us safe. And bravo to *Tsunami Warning* author Taylor Morrison for bringing this to our attention in such a compelling way.

## United Way announces \$5.1 million in grants to community programs

United Way of the Columbia-Willamette has announced the distribution of \$5.1 million in grants and strategic initiatives to address community needs in the four-county Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area. The grants specifically focus on education, income, and health, and provide support for individuals and families with immediate needs while establishing a foundation for long-term change.

Thirty-seven programs involving more than 150 collaborating partners will receive \$4 million in awards following a six-month volunteer-driven competitive grant review process. An additional \$1.1 million fund strategic initiatives.

"We received so many strong proposals that it was extremely hard for our volunteers and staff to make final selections," said Howard Klink, vice president of community investment. "There is no question that the needs in our community far outweigh available funds."

Among the recipients is the Asian Health & Service Center's Asian Wellness

Connection, a program working to improve the quality of healthcare and health outcomes for Asians by combining the strengths of a culturally specific community-based organization with community health clinics and a research institution. Building on the integrated medical home model, program elements include bilingual/bicultural community health workers, a

### Internal Revenue Service offers summer tax tips

Continued from page 7

Members of the armed forces do not have to meet these tests if a move was due to a permanent change of station.

Recent law changes make it easier to claim a casualty loss for a reduction in the value of property damaged by storms, fire, or other disasters. If a county was declared a federal disaster area, residents may be able to file a tax return immediately to claim losses.

To learn more, call 1-800-829-1040 or visit <www.irs.gov>.

coordinated care system between the center and clinics, cultural-competence training for providers, interpretation of health information, and health education workshops.

Among the other recipients are Clackamas Women's Services, Janus

Youth Programs, Project Access NOW, Born Learning, 211, Hands on Greater Portland, the NAYA Family Center, Human Solutions, Self Enhancement Inc., and the Black Parent Initiative.

For more information, visit <www.unitedway-pdx.org>.

Happy 40th,  
Shea!



ASTHMA  
IS ON  
THE RISE.

Help us find a cure.  
1-800-LUNG-USA



STUNNING  
PHOTOGRAPHY

WEDDINGS  
SENIORS  
BABIES  
PREGNANCY  
PORTRAITS  
FUNERALS

TO SEE ASIAFEST PHOTOS  
EMAIL  
LANDIS.PHOTOS@GMAIL.COM  
JANLANDISPHOTOGRAPHY.COM  
503•317•3759



## ONGOING EVENTS

**Treeless Mountain**

Through June 25, 7:15pm, Hollywood Theatre (4122 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland). Watch *Treeless Mountain*, a drama about two young sisters forced to live on their grandparents' farm in their mother's absence. (South Korea/USA, 2008, So Yong Kim, 89 mins.) See story by Ronault L.S. Catalani ("Little kids and the big picture," *AR*, June 16, 2009) at <www.asianreporter.com>. For info, call (503) 281-4215 or visit <www.hollywoodtheatre.org>. To learn more, visit <www.soandbrad.com>.

**"Parallel Worlds"**

Through June 28, noon-7pm (Mon), 10am-7pm (Tue-Sun), Portland Japanese Garden, Garden Pavilion (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). View "Parallel Worlds: Art of the Ainu of Hokkaido and Native Americans of the Pacific Northwest," an exhibit comparing the textile art of indigenous people of North America and Japan. See story by Allison Rupp ("Parallel Worlds" compares Ainu and Native American art," *AR*, June 16, 2009) at <www.asianreporter.com>. For info, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Watercolor painting class**

June 24, 2-4pm, Holgate Library (7905 SE Holgate Blvd, Portland). Attend Fish and Frogs: Watercolor Painting, an Asian-style painting class using watercolor and *sumi* ink on rice paper. Participants of the class, taught by artist Cindy Lommasson, learn to paint koi or goldfish and frogs in a pond with lily pads. Free tickets for seating are available 30 minutes prior to the program. For info, call (503) 988-5389 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

**Music Instinct**

June 24, 9-11pm; repeats June 26, 3-5am; Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch *Music Instinct: Science and Song*, a documentary exploring how and why humans are moved by music. The program includes performances by Yo-Yo Ma, Bobby McFerrin, Jarvis Cocker, and others. To verify showtimes, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

**Chungliang Al Huang**

June 25, 8-8:30pm; repeats June 28, 2-2:30am & 6-6:30pm; Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch an episode of Oregon Art Beat featuring Chungliang Al Huang, who blends the flowing movements of *tai ji* with European classical music. The episode also features profiles of jazz violinist Eddie Parente and printmaker Gene Flores. To verify showtimes, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

**Tulpan**

Opens June 26, Living Room Theaters (SW 10th Ave & SW Stark St, Portland). Watch *Tulpan*, a comedic drama in which a man leaves the Russian navy and becomes a shepherd on Kazakhstan's desolate Hunger Steppe, where he attempts to win the hand of the only eligible bachelorette for miles. (Kazakhstan, 2008, Sergey Dvortsevoy, 100 mins.) For info, including showtimes, call (971) 222-2010 or visit <www.livingroomtheaters.com>.

**Colored Pencils Art and Culture Night**

June 26, 5:30-6:30pm (art reception & dinner), 6:30-8pm (open mic), United Way of the Columbia-Willamette, Community Center (619 SW 11th Ave, Portland). Attend Colored Pencils Art and Culture Night, a monthly art show and open mic hosted by people from Asian, Arab, African, and Latino backgrounds. The event is open to the public and international food is offered. For info, call Nim at (503) 914-8170, e-mail <coloredpencils.usa@gmail.com>, or visit <www.coloredpencilsart.com>.

**DisOrient Portland film screening**

June 26, 7 & 8:45pm, Hollywood Theatre (4122 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland). View por-



DisOrient Portland

trayals of the Asian-American experience and support Asian-American artists at a 2009 DisOrient Asian American Film Festival Portland

**WONDER GIRLS**

June 27, 7:00pm

Rose Garden Arena, One Center Court, Portland

Enjoy a performance by teenage divas the Wonder Girls — one of Asia's most popular new acts — opening for the Jonas Brothers World Tour 2009. The Wonder Girls, comprised of singers Sun, Yenny, Yubin, Mimi, and Sohee, perform two of their #1 international singles — "Nobody" and "Tell Me" — on their first U.S. tour. For more information, or to buy tickets, call 1-877-789-ROSE (7673) or visit <www.rosequarter.com>.

Wonder Girls. (Photo/H. Lee, courtesy of JYP Entertainment)

screening. *Manilatown is in the Heart* screens at 7pm and *White on Rice* screens at 8:45pm. For info, call (503) 281-4215 or visit <www.hollywoodtheatre.org>. To learn more, e-mail <rose@disorientfilm.org>, or visit <www.disorientfilm.org>.

**Butoh: Exploring the Source**

June 26-27, 7:30pm, Portland Center for the Performing Arts, Dolores Winningstad Theatre (1111 SW Broadway, Portland). Enjoy *Butoh: Exploring the Source*, a 50-year retrospective of *Butoh* dance theatre. The June 26 performance, *Origins*, features Koichi & Hiroko Tamano and Harupin-Ha Butoh Theatre, Japanese folk dancers from Portland Taiko, Portland State University's (PSU's) Kyogen Theatre, the Sahomi Tachibana Dancers, and others. The June 27 performance, *Evolutions*, features Mizu Desierto Butoh Theatre, Syzygy Butoh, Christina Braun of SF Butoh Lab, and others. The shows are presented by Water in the Desert Festival 2009 and the PSU Center for Japanese Studies. For info, call (503) 289-3499. To buy tickets, visit <www.waterinthedesertfestival.org>.

**Japanese woodblock prints**

June 26-Sep 13, 11am-8pm (Wed), 11am-5pm (Tue, Thu-Sun); June 25, 6-9pm (reception); University of Oregon, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, Barker Gallery (1430 Johnson Lane, Eugene, Ore.). View "On The Road: Two Visions of the Tokaido," an exhibit showcasing two important sets of Japanese woodblock prints: Ando Hiroshige's famous "53 Stations of the Tokaido" and Jun'ichiro Sekino's "New Tokaido" series. For info, call (541) 346-3027 or visit <jsma.uoregon.edu>.

**"Reading Culture: Burma"**

June 27, 9am-4pm, Lewis & Clark College (0615 SW Palatine Hill Rd, Portland). Take a one-day journey through the literature of Burma to learn about Burmese people and their current plight with instructor Edith Mirante. Readings include books by Aung San Suu Kyi, Amy Tan, and George Orwell, along with other media. For info, or to register, call (503) 768-6040, e-mail <ccps@lclark.edu>, or visit <www.lclark.edu/dept/ccps>.

**KPSU anniversary festival**

June 27, 10am-10pm, Pioneer Courthouse Square (SW Sixth Ave between SW Morrison St & SW Yamhill St, Portland). Attend the KPSU 15th anniversary festival and enjoy live music by Eastern Sunz, Everyday Prophets, The Last Regiment of Syncopated Drummers, and many others. The free event also features local artists and businesses, five-minute massages by Blooming Moon Spa, henna artists, photo booths, and more. For info, call (503) 725-5669, e-mail <promotions@kpsu.org> or visit <www.kpsu.org>.

**Taiko performances**

June 27, 11am & 7:30pm, Hult Center for the Performing Arts, Soreng Theater (One Eugene Center at Seventh Ave & Willamette St, Eugene, Ore.). Enjoy two taiko performances offered as part of the Oregon Bach Festival (OBF): OBF Kids — Taiko Together at 11am, a family-friendly, interactive session of percussion and electronics accented by Japanese culture; and the On Ensemble at

7:30pm, a group providing an innovative twist on taiko. For info, call (541) 682-5746 or visit <www.hultcenter.org>. For tickets, call (541) 682-5000.

**"On The Road" gallery talk**

June 27, 2pm, University of Oregon, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art (1430 Johnson Lane, Eugene, Ore.). Attend a gallery talk and personal tour of "On The Road: Two Visions of the Tokaido," an exhibit of Japanese prints by artists Ando Hiroshige and Jun'ichiro Sekino, led by exhibit curator Charles Lachman. For info, call (541) 346-3027 or visit <jsma.uoregon.edu>.

**Kalakendra anniversary event**

June 27, 7-10:30pm, The Reserve Vineyards and Golf Club, Vintner's Pavilion (4805 SW 229th Ave, Aloha, Ore.). Celebrate Kalakendra's 22nd anniversary at the Friends of Kalakendra appreciation evening. The event includes a social hour, a buffet dinner, and a performance of classical and contemporary Indian music by Anant & Shruti Jahagirdar. For info, or to buy tickets (by June 24), call (503) 499-1153 or visit <www.kalakendra.org>.

**Seven Grandmasters**

June 27, 7:45pm, Hollywood Theatre (4122 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland). Watch *Seven Grandmasters*, a film in which a kung fu teacher sets out to prove he is the greatest fighter by finding and defeating the seven grandmasters. The film is chock full of old school sound effects, fighting styles, martial arts weapons, and silver-haired villains with maniacal laughter. (Taiwan, 1978, Joseph Kuo, 84 mins.) For info, call (503) 281-4215 or visit <www.grindhousefilmfest.com>.

**The Maldives**

June 27, 9pm, Crystal Ballroom, Lola's Room (1332 W Burnside St, Portland). Enjoy a performance of rock, country, and folk music by Seattle band The Maldives, featuring Tomo Nakayama on piano and percussion. The show, which is for persons age 21 and older, also includes performances by The Moondoggies in addition to Gabe Rozzell and the Decency. For info, call (503) 225-0047 or visit <www.danceonair.com>.

**Andaz**

June 27, 9pm-3am, Fez Ballroom (316 SW 11th Ave, Portland). Join the party at Andaz, Portland's monthly club night devoted to the latest electronic dance music of the South Asian diaspora. Hosts DJ Anjali and The Incredible Kid provide the Bhangra, Bollywood, and Desi beats. The event is for people age 21 and older. For info, call (503) 281-3918 or visit <www.anjaliandthekid.com>.

**Recycled Arts Festival**

June 27-28, 9am-4pm, Esther Short Park (W Columbia St & Eighth St, Vancouver, Wash.). Enjoy recycled art by more than 60 artists and family-friendly entertainment at the Recycled Arts Festival. Featured performers include Japanese drumming by Portland Taiko (June 27, 10am), Tears of Joy Puppet Theatre presenting *Ananzi the Spider* (June 28, 1pm), and more. The free event also includes a fashion show, cats and kittens for adoption, information booths, and a Tossed and Found Tent. For info, call (360) 397-6118, ext. 4352 or visit <www.recycledartsfestival.org>.

**Summer Kite Festival**

June 27-28, 10am-4pm, D-River Wayside (Lincoln City, Ore.). Experience one of the best kite-flying locations in North America at the Lincoln City Summer Kite Festival. The family-friendly event features kite races, a kids' parade, kitemaking, a teddy-bear drop, and some of the world's best competitive kite flyers. This year's festival is a Portland Rose Festival sanctioned event. For info, call (541) 996-1274 or visit <www.oregoncoast.org>.

**Salem World Beat Festival**

June 27-28, 10am-11pm (Sat), 9am-6pm (Sun), Riverfront Park (116 Marion St NE, Salem, Ore.). Enjoy a family- and child-oriented event celebrating the diverse people who make Oregon a wonderful place to live. Music, dance, dragon boat races, demonstrations, workshops, food, crafts, and games from around the world are showcased at Salem's beautiful Riverfront Park on the Willamette River. Some of the many performances scheduled during the weekend include the Sinulog Philippine Festival Parade, Japanese folk dancers, Paradise of Samoa, Kalabharathi classical Indian dance, Lama Karma Namgyel, and Te Marama Island Dancers. For info, or to obtain a complete schedule of booths and performances, call (503) 581-2004 or visit <www.worldbeatfestival.org>.

**"Good in the Neighborhood" multicultural festival**

June 27-28, noon-9:30pm (Sat), noon-7:30pm (Sun), King School Park (4800 block of NE Sixth Ave at NE Humboldt St, Portland). Attend the annual "Good in the Neighborhood" Multicultural Music & Food Festival, featuring an array of musical entertainment, a "KidSpace" with arts and crafts, face painting, an ethnic marketplace and information village, storytelling, and more. The festival is free and open to the public. For info, call (503) 282-1288 or visit <www.goodinthenighborhood.org>.

**Madama Butterfly**

June 28, noon-2:30pm, Oregon Public Broadcasting HD (OPB HD). Enjoy *Madama Butterfly*, an episode of Great Performances at the Met in which Patricia Racette stars in the title role of Puccini's heartbreaking tale of a Japanese geisha girl. To verify showtime, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

**Diversity Festival '09**

June 28, noon-7pm, Oaks Park (7805 SE Oaks Park Way, near the east end of the Sellwood Bridge, Portland). Attend Diversity Festival '09, featuring performances, merchandise, education and information booths, food, and more. For info, call Dan Bell at (503) 810-4354 or e-mail <dbell1012002@yahoo.com>.

**Free taiko performance**

June 29, noon, Hult Center for the Performing Arts, Lobby (One Eugene Center at Seventh Ave & Willamette St, Eugene, Ore.). Enjoy a free performance by Eugene Taiko, offered as part of the Oregon Bach Festival. For info, call (541) 682-5746 or visit <www.hultcenter.org>.

**Summer art workshop**

June 30 (deadline to register). Register to attend Art by the Park, held July 15 through 17 at Willamette University (WU) in Salem, Oregon, a summer art workshop for adults featuring art classes taught by WU faculty and artists from the community. Workshop subjects include watercolor, chiaroscuro, encaustics, photography, portrait drawing, *sumi-e* painting, and more. For info, or to register, call (503) 375-5442, e-mail <lwhitake@willamette.edu>, or visit <www.willamette.edu/dept/scheduling/programs/artbythepark>.

**Submit your Asian-related calendar listings to:**

The Asian Reporter, Attn: Events Calendar

922 N Killingsworth St., Suite 1A, Portland, OR 97217

News Department e-mail: news@asianreporter.com • Fax: (503) 283-4445

**Submission Format:** List event title, date, time, location with address, 2 to 3 brief sentences describing the event, and a contact phone number (required) that can be published. High-resolution photos, if available, may also be included.

**Submission Deadline:** At least two weeks prior to event date.





### BUSINESS GENERALIST

PCM seeks a fulltime Business Generalist to develop and administer accounting, budgetary, statistical, auditing and internal control procedures; includes supporting the CFO with maintaining financial records; evaluating operations costs, economic trends, controls and profitability. Supports the CFO with administering human resources policies, procedures and programs; employee relations, training and development, benefits, compensation, organizational development, and employment. Requires a business degree or related field and 2 to 5 years experience. Salary range \$40,000 - \$44,000 with full benefits. Please e-mail résumé to <empjobs@pcmtv.org> and no phone calls.



### FACILITIES SERVICES SPECIALIST

The City of Portland is seeking a Facilities Services Specialist to support the implementation and monitoring of programs involving real estate/property services. This position will be responsible for lease administration, including rent collection, preparation of leases and maintenance of lease and rental files and other City property records. *Approximate Monthly Salary: \$4,506 to \$6,004.* For more information or to apply on line, please go to <www.ci.portland.or.us/jobs/09-098/09-098.htm>. Application deadline is July 6, 2009.



### VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Oregon Food Bank seeks individual to train and supervise volunteer team leaders, volunteer groups and individuals. Requires 2 years experience working with volunteers. Complete posting and application process (available at <www.oregonfoodbank.org>). **Deadline 7/1/09.** EOE.



METRO

### PARKS PROJECT MANAGER

Sustainability Center  
\$61,293 - \$86,086 annually  
Deadline: 7/16/09

### FACILITY SECURITY AGENT

Oregon Convention Center  
Entry: \$14.26/hr., FT  
Deadline: 6/30/09

To access the complete job announcement and required application materials, visit our website at <www.oregonmetro.gov> or pick up a complete packet at Metro Human Resources, 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland.

AA/EEO Employer

### VOLUNTEER RESOURCES DIRECTOR

The American Red Cross Oregon Trail Chapter is seeking a Volunteer Resources Director for their Portland, OR location. The Volunteer Resources Director is responsible for ensuring the Chapter is maximizing our volunteer workforce resources. The individual in this position will develop volunteer leaders and teams to recruit, train, place and manage volunteer services. The director is responsible for the development and implementation of policies and processes aligned with all these activities at the program level. He/she is accountable for volunteer engagement with community and partner organizations; and maintaining volunteer program compliance with federal, state, and National Red Cross policies and standards. This position is responsible for the direct supervision of all volunteers and volunteer leaders.

**Education and/or Experience:** Bachelor's degree; or four to five years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

**Volunteer Management:** Ability to meaningfully engage and work with volunteers in all facets of job duties and learn from volunteer knowledge, skills and experiences.

**Salary:** \$36,000 - \$46,000 and generous benefits.

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The American Red Cross Oregon Trail Chapter is seeking an Administrative Assistant for their Portland, OR location. The Administrative Assistant is responsible for using initiative and good judgment to support and coordinate the administrative functions and activities of the Administration department, Director of Operations and the CEO. In addition to handling a wide variety of administrative duties, the Administrative Assistant:

- Provides administrative coordination and support for the meetings and activities of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and other volunteer leadership committees. Coordinates Board and Committee meeting arrangements and Board communications and ensures that meetings, decisions, follow-up topics are documented and distributed.
- Assists the CEO and the Director of Operations in communications and relationships with community partners and civic agencies, volunteers and staff, donors and other stakeholders.
- Uses good judgment and decision making in role by assuming work to support the administration of the Chapter and the Senior Leadership Team, while positively handling internal and external public relations.

**Education and/or Experience:** High school diploma or general education degree (GED); or three years high level secretarial and/or administrative experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Bachelor's degree or equivalent preferred.

**For both positions:**

**Cultural Competency:** Ability to interact effectively with people of different cultures. Demonstrates awareness of own cultural views and attitudes as well as of different cultures. Is able to facilitate partnerships, communicate both internally and externally and conduct service delivery cross-culturally.

**To Apply:** Please submit cover letter and résumé via e-mail <otcrecruiting@redcross-pdx.org> or via mail to: American Red Cross Oregon Trail Chapter, Attn: Human Resources, PO Box 3200, Portland, OR 97208.



The American Red Cross Oregon Trail Chapter is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



### PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL ANALYST

City of Portland Housing Bureau is seeking a Principal Financial Analyst to manage the Financial Services Section of the Portland Housing Bureau including budgeting, accounting, auditing, contracting, grant monitoring, compliance and other related functions. *Approximate Monthly Salary: \$6,184 - \$8,240.* For more information or to apply online please go to <www.ci.portland.or.us/jobs/09-108/09-108.htm>. Recruitment closes on July 6, 2009.



### WATER TREATMENT OPERATOR II

City of Portland, The Water Bureau. Full-time opportunity with approximate hourly salary of \$22.91 - \$29.60 after three years and excellent benefits. To view the position description and apply, visit <www.ci.portland.or.us/jobs>. Deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, June 26, 2009 at 4:30pm. E-mailed or faxed applications will not be accepted.

An Equal Opportunity Employer



### SmartAccess ADMINISTRATOR

PCM seeks a part-time SmartAccess Administrator to recruit and establish field partner sites, negotiate service agreements, determine site partner needs, design and customize education curriculum, track all site-related data and maintain community relations. This is a new position, reporting to the Multimedia Education Director. Bachelor's degree preferred in education or related field. At least seven years experience in community relations, working with community groups and government. Must have cultural sensitivity skills and key relationships in the community as well as government. This is a highly visible position requiring a high degree of interpersonal communication and public relations skills. Annual salary is \$30,000 with pro-rated benefits. Please submit résumé by Tuesday, June 23 to <empjobs@pcmtv.org>. Start date July 1. Please no phone calls.

### Career Opportunities



Insitu leads in the design, development and production of small autonomous aircraft for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS).

INSITU

For more information visit [www.insitu.com](http://www.insitu.com)



### IMPACT NORTHWEST JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### HOUSING SERVICES PROGRAM SPECIALIST

40 hrs./wk., \$12.20 - 13.94/hr.  
Assist families to identify & overcome barriers that impact stable housing.  
BA or equiv & 2 yrs experience.

### SUN PARENT ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Kelly Elementary  
40 hrs./wk., \$12.20 - 13.94/hr. Coordinate extended school program & family night program. Bilingual English/Spanish.

E-mail online application, <www.impactnw.org>, to <hr-jobs@impactnw.org>. EOE. No phone calls please.

### BIDS, SUB-BIDS & PUBLIC NOTICES

### PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Request for Proposals # 08-36

### IT PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Proposals due July 6, 2009 by 2:00pm (Pacific)

The Portland Development Commission (PDC) is seeking sealed competitive proposals from qualified and experienced firms to provide IT project management services for Phase 2 of PDC's Enterprise Resource Planning project. The full RFP may be downloaded from the PDC website at <www.pdc.us/login/download\_nologin.asp?i=945>. No pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for this RFP. Proposals must be received no later than the proposal due date and time listed above at 222 NW 5th Avenue, Portland, OR 97209. Fax or e-mail proposals will not be accepted. Direct all questions regarding this RFP to Daniel Spero, (503) 823-3291 (office) or <sperod@pdc.us> (e-mail).

PDC encourages participation of M/W/ESB firms in this and all contract opportunities.

### Classified advertising deadlines for our next three editions are:

- June 30 to July 6 issue: Friday, June 26, 2:00pm
- July 7 to 13 issue: Friday, July 3, 2:00pm
- July 14 to 20 issue: Friday, July 10, 2:00pm

For more information, call the Advertising Department at (503) 283-4440 or e-mail <ads@asianreporter.com>.

## TILLICUM NORTH, TILLICUM SOUTH, HUNTER'S RUN & HAROLD LEE VILLAGE [SE Townhomes] IFB NO. 05-09-74

**Sealed bids** will be received at the Housing Authority of Portland (HAP), 135 SW Ash Street, Portland, Oregon 97204, 5th floor Metolius Conference Room, until **2:00pm, July 9, 2009**. Shortly thereafter, bids will be opened and publicly read. **The First Tier Subcontractor List, HAP-421, must be received by 4:00pm the same day.** No bidder may withdraw their bid after the hour set for opening until after the lapse of sixty (60) days from the bid opening.

The basic work consists of minor interior upgrades, exterior repairs, landscaping and painting at four townhome style apartment complexes located at:

**Tillicum North, 3001 NE Division St., Gresham, OR - 18 Units**

**Tillicum South, 3045 E Powell Valley Rd., Gresham, OR -12 Units**

**Hunter's Run, 12725 SE Powell Blvd., Portland, OR - 10 Units**

**Harold Lee Village, 4023 SE 112th Ave., Portland, OR -10 Units**

Work at all properties include: Exterior painting, miscellaneous exterior building repairs, replacing the playground fall area, landscaping and interior energy upgrades.

Bid Documents are available at **Precision Images**, 900 S.E. Sandy Blvd., Portland, OR 97214, Tel. (503) 274-2030, <[www.precisionimages.com](http://www.precisionimages.com)>. A \$50 (Fifty) deposit for one set and \$20 (Twenty) for a second set is refundable when documents are returned within 10 days after bid opening. Purchasers are responsible for shipping or delivery fees; bidders may also purchase additional sets or partial sets (non-refundable).

There will be a **pre-bid tour** of the project commencing at the Tillicum North Apartments, at **9:00am, Tuesday, June 30, 2009** adjacent to the playground. All four sites will be visited. Questions posed during the tour, not addressed in the documents, will be answered by addendum.

HAP has an aspirational goal of 20% of DBE/MBE/WBE/ESB participation in the execution of this project. Therefore, non-D/M/W/ESB prime contractors will be required to submit proof showing that good faith efforts have been made to contract with D/M/W/ESB subcontractors.

This contract is for a public work subject to the Davis-Bacon residential prevailing wage decision.

The Housing Authority of Portland may reject any bid not in compliance with the prescribed bidding procedures and requirements and may reject any or all bids and waive all informalities if, in the judgment of HAP, it is in the public interest to do so. Questions regarding this project should be directed to Cinna'Mon Williams at (503) 802-8533 or <[cinnamonw@hapdx.org](mailto:cinnamonw@hapdx.org)>.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PORTLAND

### SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

## LAKE DISTRICT HOSPITAL Bid Package 2 - Addition and Renovation

Andersen Construction Co., Inc. and Lake Health District are requesting sub-bids on the above referenced project.

#### BID DOCUMENT AND PREQUALIFICATION FORM AVAILABILITY:

**For purchase:** Blueprint Specialties, 6205 W. Overland Rd., Boise, Idaho; (208) 377-0294.

**Electronically:** <<ftp://lakeview:hospital@ftp.andersen-const.com>>; username "lakeview"; password "hospital".

#### Plan Centers:

DJC – 921 SW Washington St., Suite 210, Portland, OR; (503) 226-1311

AGC – 1649 W. Shoreline Dr., Suite 100, Boise, ID; (208) 344-2531

Klamath Builders Exchange, 724 Main St., Suite 204, Klamath Falls, OR; (541) 882-9480

Medford Builders Exchange, 305 N. Bartlett, Medford, OR; (541) 770-3271

Bend Plan Center, 137 NE Greenwood, Bend, OR; (541) 385-0800

#### Available for review only at the following locations:

Andersen Construction, 6712 N. Cutter Circle, Portland, OR; (503) 283-6712 (Adele Skotte)

Andersen Construction, 6200 N. Meeker Pl., Boise, ID; (208) 275-8905 (Joe Lechner)

Anderson Engineering & Surveying, 17681 HWY 395, Lakeview, OR; (541) 947-4407



**PROJECT LOCATION:** 700 South J Street, Lakeview OR 97630

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** 35,000 SF single story addition including new OR suite, Pharmacy, ER, Labor & Delivery, and Patient rooms. 4,000 SF new Central Utility Plant. 16,000 SF renovation of existing. Includes associated site earthwork and utilities, asphalt paving, landscaping, SOG and site concrete, CMU wall structures, structural steel, wood framing, plastic laminate cabinets, cement board siding, asphalt shingle and EPDM roofing, vinyl windows, aluminum storefront, aluminum sliding doors, HM and wood doors, sheetvinyl, carpet, and rubber flooring, ceramic tile, drywall, paint, acoustical ceilings, Div 10 specialties, Fire Sprinklers, HVAC, Plumbing, and Electrical.

**REQUIREMENTS:** Questions shall be directed to Joe Lechner at (208) 275-8905 or <[jlechner@andersen-const.com](mailto:jlechner@andersen-const.com)>. Do not contact the owner or architect directly.

**Pre-Qualification is required.** To be considered for this project, bidders must submit a completed pre-qualification form (see above for availability of forms) by 2:00pm, PDT on 6/30/09 to Andersen Construction Company, Inc. at 6200 N. Meeker Pl., Suite 210, Boise, ID 83634. Completed pre-qualification forms may be hand delivered, mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the attention of Joe Lechner, <[jlechner@andersen-const.com](mailto:jlechner@andersen-const.com)>, fax (208) 275-8907. Bidders will be notified of approval or rejection of their pre-qualification within 3-5 days after receipt. We encourage you to submit as early as possible. You must use the provided form.

Pre-bid meetings – In Lakeview, Oregon - July 14, 2009, Times TBD – Attendance is highly recommended but not mandatory.

**Sealed bids** are due on or before 2:00pm PDT, July 21, 2009 at Lake Health District's front business office, 700 South J St., Lakeview, OR 97630. Per ORS 279C.370, all bidders will be required to submit a First-Tier Subcontractor Disclosure Form at this same location and within two working hours after the advertised bid closing time. First-Tier Subcontractor Disclosure Forms can be found in the Bid Instruction Manual at the same locations as the Bid Documents above.

This is an Oregon Public Works contract and no bid will be received or considered by the public contracting agency unless the bid contains a statement by the bidder, as part of their/his/her bid, that the provisions of ORS 279.350 (Prevailing Wage Rates) are to be complied with. A copy of the Prevailing Wage Rate Statement is included in the bid documents. In addition, this project is partially funded with federal funds and therefore the contractor must comply with the minimum rates for wages for laborers and mechanics as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts.

No bids will be considered unless fully completed in the manner provided upon the bid form provided and accompanied by the bid bond or a certified check executed in favor of the owner in an amount not less than 5% of the total amount of the bid. Bid bond or check will be forfeited should the selected bidder neglect or refuse to enter into contract.

No bidder may withdraw or modify their bid after the hour set for the opening thereof until after the lapse of Ninety (90) days from the bid opening. Andersen Construction and the owner reserve the right to reject any or all bids not in compliance with all prescribed bidding procedures and requirements and other applicable laws, and Andersen Construction and the owner may reject for good cause any or all bids upon Andersen Construction and/or the owner finding that it is in its interest to do so. Andersen Construction and the owner may waive any informality in the bidding process.

Bidders must be registered with the Oregon Construction Contractors Board.

**DISCLOSURES:** Disadvantaged Business Enterprises including minority-owned, women-owned, emerging small business, and contractors who are a consortium of these are encouraged to submit bid proposals for the project.

This project is funded in part by the Oregon Economic Community Development Department, South Valley Bank, and in part with federal funds from the USDA Rural Development.

For contracting opportunities with the City of Portland, please log on to the Bureau of Purchases Web Page <[www.portlandonline.com/omf/purchasing](http://www.portlandonline.com/omf/purchasing)>



**City of Portland**  
Bureau of Purchases

1120 SW Fifth Ave., Room 750  
Portland, Oregon 97204 ■ (503) 823-6855

### SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

## KENTON LIBRARY TENANT IMPROVEMENT AND ADDITION

Multnomah County Oregon

Seismic Upgrade, Tenant Improvement and Addition

**Bid Date: July 7, 2009, 12:00pm**

Please Note: This is a prevailing wage project

Contact receiving bids: Pete Smith

Bid documents are available for review at the Fortis office and at local plan centers.



**FORTIS**  
CONSTRUCTION INC.

1705 SW Taylor Street, Suite 200  
Portland, OR 97205

Phone: (503) 459-4477 ■ Fax: (503) 459-4478  
OR CCB#155766

We are an equal opportunity employer and request sub bids from minority, women, disadvantaged, and emerging small business enterprises.

All bidders must comply with the most recent requirements of Affirmative Action Requirements and Prevailing Wage Law in ORS 279.348-365.

## RENOVATION WORK AT ALDERWOOD & POWELLHURST WOODS APARTMENTS

**JOB NO. IFB 05/09-72**

**Sealed bids** will be received at the Housing Authority of Portland (HAP), 135 SW Ash Street, Portland, Oregon 97204, 5th floor Metolius Conference Room, until **2:00pm, Wednesday, July 15, 2009**. Shortly thereafter, bids will be opened and publicly read. **The First Tier Subcontractor List, HAP-421, must be received by 4:00pm the same day.** No bidder may withdraw their bid after the hour set for opening until after the lapse of sixty (60) days from the bid opening.

The basic work consists of: Replace kitchen and bath cabinetry, resilient flooring, interior doors, minor electrical, plumbing, mechanical upgrades, painting, concrete and asphalt paving, landscaping, play equipment, storage building, and site furnishings.

Bid Documents are available at Ford Graphics, 1431 NW 17th Avenue, Portland, OR 97209, phone: (503) 227-3424, <[www.fordgraphics.com](http://www.fordgraphics.com)>. A \$50 deposit for one set and \$20 (twenty) for each additional set is refundable when documents are returned within 10 days after bid opening.

Attendance of bidders is **mandatory** at a **pre-bid tour** of the project commencing at Powellhurst Woods Apartments, 11200 SE Holgate Street, Portland, OR 97266 at **10:00am, Thursday, June 25, 2009**. Questions posed during the tour, not addressed in the documents, will be answered by addendum.

HAP has an aspirational goal of 20% of DBE/MBE/WBE/ESB participation in the execution of this project. Therefore, non-D/M/W/ESB prime contractors will be required to submit proof showing that good faith efforts have been made to contract with D/M/W/ESB subcontractors.

This contract is for a public work subject to the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage decision.

The Housing Authority of Portland may reject any bid not in compliance with the prescribed bidding procedures and requirements and may reject any or all bids and waive all informalities if, in the judgment of HAP, it is in the public interest to do so. Questions regarding this project should be directed to Cinna'Mon Williams at (503) 802-8533.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PORTLAND

**CONSERVE TODAY - REAP THE REWARDS TOMORROW!**

# COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

THE ASIAN REPORTER CAN BE PICKED UP EVERY TUESDAY AT MANY LOCATIONS, INCLUDING:

**Thanh Thao Restaurant**  
4005 SE Hawthorne  
Portland

**Thai PK Restaurant**  
6141 SW Macadam  
Portland

**My Canh Restaurant**  
1801 NE 39th Ave.  
Portland

**Sushiland Restaurant**  
8424 SE Sunnyside  
Clackamas

**Sweet Basil Thai Restaurant**  
1639 NW Glisan St.  
Portland

**Thai Cuisine Restaurant**  
17985 SW Nyberg  
Tualatin

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**FOR SALE Mattresses**

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**REAL ESTATE For Sale/For Lease**



**PACIFIC INTERPRETERS**  
*We understand.*

We are now hiring interpreters for all languages, especially: Korean, Vietnamese, Japanese, Cantonese, Lao, Thai, Tibetan, Mien, Hmong, Cambodian, Punjabi, Bosnian, Portuguese, Somali, Tigrinian, and Greek, in the Vancouver, Portland, & Salem areas.

**INQUIRE AT:**  
(503) 445-5644  
1-800-311-1232, ext. 5644  
Fax: (503) 445-5501  
<recruitment@pacificinterpreters.com>  
<www.pacificinterpreters.com>

**INTERPRETERS SOUGHT**  
Northwest Interpreters, Inc. is looking for individuals who are interested in doing on-site or over-the-phone interpreting. Must be fluent in English and target language. Looking for: Burmese, Cambodian, Cantonese, Chuukese, Hmong, Indonesian, Karen, Korean, Lao, Mandarin, Micronesian, Mien, Nepali, Polynesian, Tagalog, Tibetan, Thai, Vietnamese. Please contact Karina at (360) 566-0492, ext. 311.

**QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESSES**  
With box spring and in factory plastic. \$179.00  
WE CAN DELIVER!  
Call (503) 828-8927

**Document Translation**  
TRANSLATION / NOTARY available for birth certificates, marriage certificates, other documents. English, Spanish, Russian, Burmese, French. \$40/page. Contact Sponsors Organized to Assist Refugees at (503) 284-3002 or 2906 N.E. Glisan St., Portland, OR 97232.

**Home Entertainment**  
**HOME ENTERTAINMENT INSTALLATION**  
Need stereo & HDTV set-up for the perfect home theater surround sound? We can do it! Great prices, expert service! Call Digital Connections at (971) 853-2576.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING MAY BE AVAILABLE**  
Income restrictions apply. If affordable units are not available at this time, applicants will be placed on a waiting list.  
Guardian Management is an Equal Housing Opportunity provider.

**WANTED: ENGLISH-KOREAN SPEAKING BUSINESSPERSON**  
for home-based wellness business opportunity with solid, expanding company. For info, call: (503) 997-5873

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES Construction**  
**CCB NOTICE**  
Oregon state law requires anyone who contracts for construction work to be licensed by the Construction Contractors Board. An active license means the contractor is bonded and insured. Verify the contractor's CCB license through the CCB Consumer website at <www.hirelicensedcontractor.com>.

Going online?  
Check out The AR's site, <www.asianreporter.com>.

**Travel Services**  
**THE PERFECT VACATION**  
Don't just dream of that perfect vacation... experience it! Sparrow Travel offers cruises, luxury & escorted tours, family vacations, honeymoon registration, and more. Cantonese and Mandarin-speaking agent available. For info, e-mail <tracey@sparrowtravel.com>.  
<www.sparrowtravel.com>

**CASCADIAN TERRACE APARTMENTS**  
5700 N. Kerby  
Portland, OR 97217  
Office: (503) 283-3541  
TTY: 1-800-735-2900

Looking for a new career?  
Check out the Northwest Job Market, located on pages 13 & 14.

**Fencing & Gates**  
**CUSTOM-BUILT STEEL FENCING AND GATES**  
\* Automatic gate openers serviced and installed.  
\* Custom security bars for doors and windows. Call (503) 481-9754

**REAL ESTATE For Sale/For Lease**

**WANTED Adoption**

**ROOMMATE OR CAREGIVER**  
Fun-loving senior Japanese lady, loves to cook and garden, looking for roommate or someone who can be caregiver to Japanese lady or Caucasian man. Will have own bedroom and bath. Call Betty: (503) 357-3058.

**ADOPTION**  
We promise a home with endless love, laughter, an adoring brother, and security. A bright future awaits your precious baby. Private/legal & expenses paid. Please call Martie & Chris at 1-877-205-8392.

**Classified advertising deadlines for our next three editions are:**

- June 30 to July 6 issue: Friday, June 26, 2:00pm
- July 7 to 13 issue: Friday, July 3, 2:00pm
- July 14 to 20 issue: Friday, July 10, 2:00pm

For information, call (503) 283-4440.

**2009 ADVERTISING RATES & ORDER FORM:**  
Phone: (503) 283-4440 \* Fax: (503) 283-4445 \* E-mail: ads@asianreporter.com

**Display Space (Asia, Ed-Op, Community, A.C.E. sections)**  
\$20.00 per column inch; Reservation deadline: Wednesdays by 1:00pm

**Special "Business Card" Display Ad:**  
 \$55 per week     \$145 for 3 consecutive weeks     \$255 for 6 consecutive weeks

**Northwest Job Market/Bids & Public Notices section**  
\$20.00 per column inch; Text/Fax deadline: Fridays by 2:00pm

**Community Classified Page**  
 **Boxed Ad**  
 \$20.00 per column inch; Text/Fax deadline: Fridays by 2:00pm

**Line Ad (up to 35 words):**  
 \$20 per week     \$48 for 3 consecutive weeks     \$84 for 6 consecutive weeks

**Name Listing (4 lines maximum ~ about 10 words):**  
 \$12 per week     \$27 for 3 consecutive weeks     \$45 for 6 consecutive weeks

Prepayment required with Line Ad, Name Listing & Business Card.  
 Add \$1.00 per week per line for bold headings (Line Ad & Name Listing).  
 Add 25¢ per word per week after 35 words (Line Ad).  
 All advertisements must be submitted in writing; no phone ads accepted.

**The Asian Reporter**

Main classification: \_\_\_\_\_ Run date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Ad type (circle one):    Display ad    Business Card    Box ad    Line ad    Name listing ad

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Total ad cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Ad copy (attach a separate sheet if necessary):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail, Fax or Deliver with payment to:**  
Asian Reporter Classifieds, 922 N Killingsworth Street, Suite 1A, Portland, OR 97217-2220  
Fax: (503) 283-4445 \* E-mail: <ads@asianreporter.com>  
**For Visa, Mastercard, or American Express payment only:**


Name (as it appears on the card): \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF CARD (circle):    VISA    Mastercard    American Express

EXP. DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code & Address of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Read about AsiaFest 2009! See page 16.**

Photo/John Wong

Photo/Alfred She



**FACES OF ASIAFEST.** The AsiaFest 2009 entertainment stage featured many performers, including (clockwise from top left) the Portland Art & Cultural Center Dance Team, the Hmong Sunflower Dancers, the Cambodian Dance Troupe, and the Natasinh Sao Lao of Oregon Dance Team. The Kids' Area was a popular destination for people of all ages. The area featured (counterclockwise from bottom left) a basketball shooting game; face, hand, and arm painting; crawl-through tunnels; art and craft activities; and more. (AR Photos/Maileen Hamto, Jan Landis, Alfred She, Eugene Wong, John Wong, and George Wu)

## AsiaFest: Portland's celebration of diverse Asian cultures

By Julie Stegeman  
The Asian Reporter

Asian Heritage Month was brought to a close in Portland at AsiaFest 2009, a grand celebration of the cultures of Asia and the Pacific Islands. An officially sanctioned Rose Festival event, AsiaFest was created six years ago to "share, educate, and celebrate the many wonders of the Asian culture," according to organizer Jason Lim.

Nearly 3,000 people attended the family-friendly, daylong event at the Oregon Convention Center, where they enjoyed performances by regional groups, Asian food, informational and cultural booths, activities, and more.

Upon entering the event site, visitors were challenged with a "cultural treasure hunt" — a series of Asian-related questions, such as "Which country's highest point is Doi Inthanon?" or "In what year did the groundbreaking for the Portland Classical Chinese Garden occur?" Answers could be found by visiting various festival vendors. Those who completed the treasure hunt could turn in their answers to earn a spin on a "wheel of fortune" and win a toy or other prize.

The festival offered an opportunity to visit nearly 50 food, information, and culture booths. There was a wide range of exhibitors present and festival attendees could find information on everything from immigrant assistance at the Asian

Family Center/IRCO display to adoption from Asian countries at the Associated Services for International Adoption (ASIA) to Buddhism from the Oregon Buddhist Temple's booth. In addition, exotic objects from around the globe were presented for purchase at The Monkey & The Rat's booth.

Several exhibitors offered giveaways or services. At the Spirit Mountain Casino booth, adults could play a hand of blackjack to win casino vouchers, including overnight stays or access to the buffet. For those who were feeling stressed or tense, G&L Acupuncture & Wellness Center offered mini-massages at reasonable prices. Hungry people could enjoy free sushi at the Chips & Palace Casinos' booth or make their way to the food court to check out the delicious Asian cuisine offerings from Wong's King and Sandy's Asian Cuisine, tea with big, dark tapioca balls from Eastland Sushi & Bubble Tea, and ready-to-eat items from Uwajimaya.

The 20 entertainment groups performing at AsiaFest were as varied as the cultures they represented — China, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Tibet, Hawaii, Japan, the Philippines, and India. Entertainment included the Portland Lee's Association Lion Dance Team's energetic lion dancers moving through the audience to the heavy beat of drums, the graceful movements of the young women of the Au Co Viet dance group, and the acro-

batic prowess of the Wushu Xtreme Team. The performance stage also included the haunting melodies of performers from the Tibetan Cultural Center and elegant hula dances and songs from the Ke Kukui Foundation, among other talented groups. The wide-ranging performances truly highlighted the great diversity of culture that is encompassed by the generic term "Asian."

The event also featured a silent auction. Festival-goers had an opportunity to bid on goody baskets filled with items such as apparel, hotel stays, salon treatments, and more.

An immensely popular kids' area kept the little ones busy at the event. Children could choose from craft activities, including decorating dragons, fans, or Chinese lanterns; face painting; or more physical activities, such as shooting baskets, crawling through tunnels, or playing with "body boppers" — inflatable donut-shaped toys with handles that allowed kids to play "bumper-car style." The only problem with the area was trying to get the children to leave when parents were ready.

Platinum sponsors of AsiaFest 2009 were American Family Insurance, FamilyCare, Spirit Mountain Casino, the Portland Development Commission, and *The Asian Reporter*.

To learn more about AsiaFest, The Asian Reporter Foundation, or next year's events, visit <[www.ARFoundation.net](http://www.ARFoundation.net)>.

